

Pakistan wins Davis qualifying matches

AMMAN (Petra) — Pakistan Saturday defeated Jordan 2-0 in the last day of the three-day Davis Cup qualifying matches hosted by Jordan. Pakistan which has three wins over Jordan in the previous two days will move to the third stage of the tournament. In Saturday's matches which were patronised by Her Majesty Queen Noor, Pakistan's Omar Rashid defeated Salih Bushnaq of Jordan 2-0. Also Pakistani player Hamid Al Haq defeated Imad Abu Hamda 2-0. The Queen presented the Pakistani team with token gifts at the end of the matches which were attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Sarwat, President of the Jordanian Tennis Federation Dr. Daoud Hanania and several officials.

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Holidays announced

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Saturday announced that June 22, 1991 will be the first day of Eid Al Adha feast in Jordan. On the occasion all ministries, government departments and public institutions will be closed as of Saturday till Tuesday night, the prime minister said in a communique.

Chinese premier to visit Jordan in July

AMMAN (R) — Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng will visit Jordan on July 6 to discuss how his country could help Middle East peace efforts, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Saturday. Mr. Peng, on his two-day visit, would also discuss bilateral ties, it added.

New jobs created

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Cabinet, in a session held Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mudar Badran, approved the ministries and government departments manning table draft system for the year 1991. According to the draft system, 2,835 jobs will be created, raising the total of the government jobs for the current year to 104,464. The minister of finance will issue soon explanations regarding the manning table system for the year 1991.

Gorbachev accepts G-7 invitation

MOSCOW (AP) — President Mikhail Gorbachev Saturday formally accepted an invitation from British Prime Minister John Major to meet with the leaders of the seven top industrialised nations after next month's Western economic summit. The invitation was delivered to Mr. Gorbachev at the Kremlin by British Ambassador Rodric Braithwaite, the official news agency TASS reported. "The president of the USSR accepted the invitation with satisfaction," TASS said. Mr. Gorbachev wants to meet the leaders of the Group of Seven (G-7) after their July 15-17 summit to outline his plans for reforming the Soviet economy with foreign assistance.

Greece begins expelling Palestinians

ATHENS (AP) — Greece expelled the first three of 26 Palestinians ordered to leave because of their alleged involvement in a bombing that killed seven people, police said Saturday. But the conservative government, apparently bowing to pressure from leftist opposition parties, said it will reexamine its decision to expel the former Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief of mission here. Greece last week announced the expulsion of six PLO officials with diplomatic rank and 20 other Palestinians it said were a security threat because of evidence linking them to the April 19 bombing.

Iran demanding payment for relief

BONN (AP) — Iran has demanded Germany with a bill for \$4 million for services used by the German military during its effort to help Kurdish refugees, a spokesman said. A spokesman for the Defence Ministry in Bonn said the bill covered aircraft fuel, landing fees for planes and other services.

Suspects charged for Berlin Wall shootings

BERLIN (R) — Four former East German border guards have been arrested and charged with manslaughter for carrying out the former communist regime's "shoot-to-kill" policy at the Berlin Wall, justice officials said Saturday. They were charged in connection with the shooting of Chris Grefroy, the last person killed fleeing from East Berlin to the west in February 1989, just nine months before the wall fell. Berlin justice department spokeswoman Jutta Burghard said the four, accused of manslaughter and attempted manslaughter, were the first to be charged under East Berlin's order that anyone trying to flee the country could be shot.

6 newspaper staff sentenced to death in Kuwaiti trials

Jordanians, Palestinians lead list of military court's 'conviction' list

KUWAIT CITY (Agencies) — Kuwait's martial law court on Saturday condemned six newspaper workers to death and sent 10 others to jail for 10 years for their work on an Iraqi-run publication during the occupation. Eight employees of the daily Al Nidaa were acquitted.

The packed courtroom erupted in pandemonium when the verdicts and sentences were read, with relatives dropping to the floor crying hysterically. The six women defendants burst into tears and hugged each other — one condemned to death, one acquitted and four given 10-year sentences.

Military police cocked their rifles and submachine guns to separate the condemned from their families, although 16 of the men had been put in a steel cage along one wall. Police pushed the relatives out of the courtroom and down the hall with yells of "Let's go. Let's go."

Before delivering the sentences, Judge Mohammad Ben Najt quoted verses from the Koran saying those who do something wrong deserve to be punished. "These people betrayed Kuwait at a time Kuwait needed their help," he said.

In his 27-page decision, the judge said the newspaper was a "criminal project... and these people helped carry it out." The case against the 24, most of them Jordanians and Palestinians, first went to court on May 21, but was delayed until June 1 to give defence lawyers time to prepare their defences.

Human rights groups have condemned the martial law courts for not producing witnesses in court, and the defence lawyers in Al Nidaa also told the judge that they could not defend their clients against "ghost witnesses."

There is no appeal in the martial law courts. But the martial law governor, Crown Prince Saad Abdullah Al Sabab, must approve all sentences in consultation with three judges from the court of appeals.

Those acquitted included garbage collectors, labourers and a few who had walked off their jobs after a day or two. "We could not even accept 10 years. He did not work at Al Nidaa for one single day," said Ihab Ibrahim, a cousin of Mr. Mostafa, condemned to death. "What did he do to earn 10 years in jail? I thought he would be released," said Kalthum Mahmoud Harth, whose sister Zikriat, a Palestinian editor, was jailed for 10 years. "It's not fair, it's not fair," said

the wife of Abdul Rahman Al Hussein, collapsed in a chair outside the court clerk's office where she went to confirm that she heard the death sentence correctly because the judge read them so quickly. Right before the sentencing her husband had asked a reporter, "have you heard any rumours about clemency?"

Kuwaitis who attended various parts of the trial had supported the idea of tough sentences, but left the decision of whether it should be death or not up to the judge.

The paper daily carried a picture of Iraqi Saddam Hussein, usually colour and devoted countless inches to lambasting the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and his family. It referred to the emir as Croesus, the Biblical figure of legendary wealth. A profile of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia said he wrote love poems to former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Before the sentencing lawyers said the countless insults against the ruling family might make it difficult for the judge to show any leniency. Lawyers objected during the trial that much of the evidence cited by the police captain brought in as the main witness came from an unidentified "secret source."

But Judge Ben Najt said in his decision that no mercy was warranted because "these people intended to hurt Kuwait." He dismissed statements made by human rights organisations that the prosecution did not give sufficient weight to the amount of psychological pressure to conform to the Iraqis' wishes. Waiting women were led from the ultra-modern court room in the palace of justice overlooking the oil-slicked Gulf waters.

A Red Cross delegate was present at the hearings, which have been condemned by Amnesty International as unfair.

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CROWN PRINCE MEETS ADC CHIEF: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday holds talks with Albert Mikheib, head of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (see page 3)

Italian stabbed in Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian woman stabbed and wounded an Italian Jewish tourist Saturday near a gate into Jerusalem's old walled city, police said.

The suspected attacker and another Arab woman were arrested at the scene. They had knives, one of which was bloodstained, a statement said.

The victim was stabbed three times in the stomach and shoulder and hospitalised in "moderate condition," police said. Hospital officials identified him as Tiziano Rollo, 32.

According to a police, the tourist, a religious Jew, came to Israel to study Hebrew and was living in Tel Aviv. He visited occupied Jerusalem to meet with his rabbi.

The arrested woman was from Ramallah, police said. Police said the incident happened on the stone steps leading from the Damascus Gate.

Before dawn Saturday, shots were fired at an Israeli military patrol near the village of Bani Naim in the occupied West Bank. No injuries were reported.

Troops returned fire and later detained several suspects. Israel Radio said. In another development, an army patrol came under cross fire from Jordan during the night in the area of Kfar Ruppin, a settlement in the Jordan Valley, the radio reported. There were no injuries.

The assaults in the occupied West Bank and Arab Jerusalem followed the recent pattern of an increase in armed Palestinian attacks against the Israelis or foreigners visiting Israel and the occupied territories.

In Saturday's attack, Israel Radio said, the man was attacked outside Damascus Gate after the two women followed him out of the Old City. He had prayed at the Western Wall, it said.

Court hears accounts of Petra Bank 'cheques'

By Ahmad Kreishan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The military court Saturday resumed hearings of the Petra Bank case and heard further testimony from witness Yusef Al Salem, head of an investigation panel which probed the now-defunct bank's affairs.

Mr. Salem, an employee at the Arab Bank in Amman, testified that many of the documents and cheques and bills he found at Petra Bank were signed by unauthorised employees and this was detrimental to the bank's operations and revenues.

He told the court that some Petra Bank employees had authorised the transfer of large sums of foreign currency from one bank to another without referring to the bank's manager, who alone held such powers.

Mr. Salem, who has worked for banks in Jordan and the Gulf states for 29 years, testified that many of the cheques involved in such dealings had no counter entries — meaning that the amounts were not deducted from the customers' accounts.

The investigating committee found two such cheques — one worth JD 500,000 and the other JD 35,000 — which of course meant a loss to Petra Bank itself, together with interest on these sum totalling JD 141,000 earned on this money through various investments and loans, the witness said.

Mr. Salem told the court that in the course of investigations police had to enter some private homes in search of official bank documents, but many of these had already disappeared further complicating matters for the committee.

According to the witness, the committee found that a cheque worth \$350,000 was paid by telex to a bank in Washington in favour of a foreign company as rent for a guest house. The committee later discovered that the rent had been paid in advance for 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1992.

He said that when Petra Bank hit trouble due to shortage in liquidity its management resorted to borrowing from the Central Bank of Jordan and other banks. Tens of millions of dollars were borrowed by the bank, leading to a massive accumulation of actual losses, he added.

The witness told the court that the bank's total losses amounted to nearly JD 313 million.

U.N. orders inspection of 'undisclosed' Iraqi sites

NEW YORK (Agencies) — The U.N. Security Council has ordered its experts to inspect previously undisclosed nuclear sites in Iraq, the New York Times reported in Saturday editions.

The inspections were ordered after the United States provided the special U.N. commission in charge of overseeing the destruction of Baghdad's nuclear arsenal with new information from an Iraqi nuclear scientist who allegedly defected over a week ago.

The New York Times said U.S. officials who follow the Iraqi nuclear programme said the "defector" had said that Iraq had eight primary sites for nuclear research and development, three of which were bombed extensively during the Gulf war.

The officials said most of the defectors' reports were not proved and would require additional research, the paper said. U.N. officials said they had been told that the Iraqi "defector" reported that Iraq had been trying to manufacture weapons-grade uranium using an old-fashioned technique called magnetic isotope separation. It is a method the United States experimented with but abandoned while it was developing the world's first atomic bomb at the end of World War II.

In April, a Palestinian man stabbed to death a French woman pilgrim at a restaurant in the West Bank town of Bethlehem.

The Old City has seen several knife attacks during the Palestinian uprising. Five tourists have been killed since the uprising began in December 1987.

A Palestinian man stabbed wounded three Thai labourers on an Israeli farm in the occupied West Bank Friday.

Under a U.N. Security Council resolution adopted on April 3, Iraq must provide details of its chemical, biological, ballistic and nuclear capabilities so they can be removed or destroyed. Only once that is accomplished will Baghdad be permitted to export oil again.

Meanwhile the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee is looking into allegations that arms may have been shipped illegally to Iraq, but has received no testimony that the nominee to head the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) was involved, the panel's chairman said Friday.

Sen. David Boren said information at a classified briefing of the committee alleges that arms were shipped from the United States through South Africa and possibly to Iraq and other countries in 1986 and 1987.

The San Francisco Examiner, quoting committee member Alan Cranston, said Thursday that the committee was looking into allegations in sworn testimony that Robert Gates facilitated covert and possibly illegal shipments of U.S. arms to Iraq.

Allied forces leave Dohuk

DOHUK, Iraq (Agencies) — Allied troops quietly pulled out of the first city in northern Iraq Saturday, ending their 21-day occupation of Dohuk in a test case for a fullscale withdrawal later this summer.

Hundreds of soldiers and trucks filled with equipment are leaving Iraq each day, and the U.S. military announced that troop strength in "Operation Provide Comfort" had dropped almost 30 per cent since its peak May 21.

The allies' withdrawal from Dohuk was preceded Friday night by a peaceful demonstration of about 1,500 Kurds who surrounded the allied compound and pleaded with coalition forces to stay.

The gathering ended after 90 minutes when U.S. army Major General Jay Garner, commander of allied combat troops in Iraq, assured the crowd that the Iraqi army and secret police would not be allowed back into Dohuk for an unspecified period of time.

Under an agreement between Iraqi forces and the U.S. command, the Iraqi army and other security forces will not enter the city, according to U.S. army Colonel Dick Naab, a negotiator for the coalition.

In addition, Col. Naab and other allied officers have the right to visit Dohuk after Saturday "to keep the Iraqis honest," he said. "We'd like to show a little bit of a presence," Col. Naab said as he sat the Dohuk hotel, while the last American soldiers cleaned up around him.

U.S. spokesmen stress that the task of soldiers who deployed in Dohuk had been purely humanitarian and note that lightly armed United Nations guards are moving into the city.

The United Nations has deployed 37 guards, armed with pistols supplied by Baghdad, in Dohuk, but lack of money has held up plans to send up to 550 U.N. security men to Iraq.

Five-hundred of the U.N. officers should have been in Iraq this weekend but so far less than 100 have arrived, a problem U.N. officials blamed on funding.

By Saturday afternoon, all of the 89 American, British, French and Dutch forces who had occupied Dohuk since May 24 were gone.

They entered Dohuk to help restore essential services to the city of 250,000 people, one of the largest in northern Iraq.

Their presence also acted as a magnet to Kurds who fled to squalid refugee camps in the mountains between Turkey and Iraq after their failed rebellion.

More than 180,000 Kurds returned to Dohuk since the allies first came to the city. Now it bustles, boasting a well-stocked bazaar and lucrative trade in black market electrical goods.

The pullout makes Dohuk the first city vacated by allied troops during their occupation of northern Iraq.

Thousands of soldiers have withdrawn in past weeks, mostly medical, logistical and other non-combat units. Allied troop strength in northern Iraq and southern Turkey has dropped 28 per cent to 15,443 soldiers since its high on May 21.

Of them, 7,738 are Americans and 7,508 belong to other armies in the coalition that fought Iraq in the Gulf war, according to U.S. army Col. Bob Flocke, a military spokesman.

Hundreds of soldiers are leaving Iraq every day. On Thursday, Col. Flocke said, 300 soldiers left the allied zone. On Friday, hundreds of trucks, carrying soldiers, telecommunications equipment, food and weapons rolled over the Habur River bridge into Silopi, Turkey.

Western aid workers also have left Dohuk.

Under an agreement with the Iraqi military, the 36 aid workers who came to the city had permission to remain in Dohuk for at least another month.

Tehran Times: Hostages may be released soon

NICOSIA (AP) — The newspaper Tehran Times said Saturday a phased release of Western hostages held by pro-Iranian militants in Lebanon may begin in a few days.

The English-language daily said it was not clear which of the captives would come out first, but that Lebanese and Palestinian detainees held by Israel also will be freed.

Tehran Times, which is close to Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani, quoted its correspondent in Beirut as saying "sources in the Lebanese capital share the same opinion — that the hostages, whether they are in Israel or Lebanon, are going to be released in the near future."

There are 13 Westerners missing in Lebanon — six Americans, four Britons, two Germans and an Italian. Most are believed held by militants linked to Hizbollah (Party of God), which is backed by Iran.

One of the captors' key demand has been the release of 300-400 Lebanese and Palestinians held by Israel. Israel has said it would free the detainees in exchange for seven Israeli servicemen missing since its 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Without identifying its correspondent in Beirut, the Tehran Times said its sources refused to be quoted by name for fear of jeopardizing the deal.

He attributed the breakthrough to a recent contact between Tehran and London and a visit to Syria and Lebanon by a senior British Foreign Office official.

He said that in a telephone conference on Wednesday with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, British Foreign

Secretary Douglas Hurd asked that Tehran "use its spiritual influence for the release of the hostages."

Mr. Hurd's chief aide, Foreign Office Minister Douglas Hogg said in Beirut on Wednesday that on a recent visit he "was able to impress the government of Israel the importance of releasing people."

The Tehran Times correspondent said Mr. Hogg's statement was "considered positive by many observers in Lebanon."

These observers, he added, "speculate that American and British hostages may be released in a few days' time."

Later in the story, he said it was "not important who will move first, whether Israel or certain groups in Lebanon."

"What is important is the piece of good news that all hostages, irrespective of their nationality, will be able to go to their homes in the near future."

The newspaper said that when asked if all the captives would be released at the same time, the correspondent answered that they "may be released gradually...."

The newspaper said that because the story developed Friday there was no one at the foreign ministry in Tehran to comment on the report.

This was the newspaper's second report this week predicting a hostage release. On Wednesday, it quoted its Beirut correspondent as saying: "It may be that one or two American hostages may be released" in the near future.

The Israeli government often times prisoner releases to coincide with holy Islamic feasts.

Muslims celebrate 'Eid Al Adha' on June 22, marking the end of the annual pilgrimage season to the holy shrines of Mecca and Medina.

There has been no word from Israel if any release is planned for the occasion.

Before the circulation of the Tehran Times report, Israel's defence ministry accused Iran and Syria on Friday of exploiting the issue of the Western hostages in order to pressure Israel into releasing imprisoned guerrillas.

"These countries are using the hostages so as to force Israel... to release the terrorists it legally holds in exchange for Western hostages kidnapped without doing anything wrong," ministry spokesman Dan Naven said in a statement.

"We express our sorrow over the fact that Iran and Syria, who control the fate of Western hostages and Israeli prisoners, are continuing to exploit in a cynical way this sensitive humanitarian issue," the statement said.

The statement also quoted Defence Minister Moshe Arens as repeating Israel's offer to swap Lebanese prisoners it holds in exchange for its servicemen and the Western hostages.

Iran has helped secure the release of hostages from captivity in Lebanon in the past few years. It has repeatedly said it was awaiting a goodwill gesture, such as the release of Arab prisoners held by Israel, to resume its efforts on behalf of the Western hostages.

Mr. Rafsanjani is believed to want an end to the hostage saga in a bid to change Iran's terrorist image and improve relations with the West to lure badly needed investment and technology.



IRANIANS FOR HAJ: An Iranian cleric, in turban, describing hajj protocol to a group of Iranian women pilgrims at Jidda airport in Saudi Arabia. The rituals of the annual pilgrimage to

Mecca begin next week. Iranians are taking part in the pilgrimage this year for the first time since 1987.

U.N.: Iraq cooperating in returning Kuwaiti property

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A U.N. official said Friday Iraq had been cooperating with U.N. teams in charge of overseeing the return of looted Kuwaiti goods and an exchange would begin in two or three weeks.

Comments from Richard Foran, the U.N. official in charge of seeing the goods were returned, contrasted sharply with those of the United States and Britain, who have used Iraq's alleged non-compliance on stolen property as one reason to keep trade sanctions in place.

"The compliance may not be as swift as a number of people have wished to see — particularly the Kuwaitis because after all it is their property. But I personally would not categorise it as non-compliance at all," Mr. Foran, a Canadian, told a news conference.

Kuwait, he said, has asked for priority to be given for the return of gold bars, coins and currency, followed by museum pieces, national libraries and civilian aircraft.

He said agreement had been reached for the exchange of goods to begin in two or three weeks at Arar in Saudi Arabia, beginning with 3,216 gold bars and currency followed by the museum pieces and libraries.

Mr. Foran said there was no disagreement on the number of gold bars but a discrepancy in the 320 million Kuwaiti dinars claimed by Kuwait and the 170 million dinars Iraq said it had. But he said Iraq has located additional notes in vaults elsewhere in the country that were being brought to Baghdad.

"It has taken time, wars are not orderly processes and the situation in the region is far from normal," he said, adding that communications and movement of goods in Iraq were still difficult.

"There have been a lot of delays which are understandable and these have been ironed out now... whether this could have been done sooner, I don't know," he added.

Civilian airliners, he said, posed a bigger problem. One of the 14 Kuwaiti says were stolen has been returned. Seven are in Iraq and almost all of them were damaged by allied bombs during the Gulf war.

The remaining six airbuses are reported to be in Iran and Mr. Foran said he had offered his assistance to Iranian officials.

Remaining Falashas to be sent to Israel

NEW YORK (Agencies) — The new government of Ethiopia is willing to allow the remaining Jews in the country to leave for Israel as soon as possible, according to information provided to the World Jewish Congress (WJC) on Friday by a top State Department official.

The WJC said Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Herman Cohen told the organisation that the remaining Jews are free to leave once normal operations are resumed at Addis Ababa airport.

About 14,000 Ethiopian Jews were airlifted last month in "Operation Solomon" as rebel troops poured into the city and sent President Mengistu Haile Mariam into exile.

The WJC said there are about 300 Jews left in Addis Ababa and another 2,000 in the northern Gondar region. Some Jews in Gondar are making their way to Addis Ababa, the WJC said.

Mr. Cohen, who presided over the talks in London between rebels and the collapsing Mengistu government, told the WJC that there would be no need for a new airlift to bring the remaining Jews to Israel.

WJC sources said it was understood that none of the \$35 million paid to the Ethiopian government by Israel for "Operation Solomon" went into the hands of officials of the Mengistu government.

The sources indicated that the money was in a bank and available to the new government. The black Jews call themselves members of "Beta Israel," or house of Israel. In 1973 Israel's

chief rabbis traced their roots to the Biblical tribe of Dan.

In Ethiopia they were called "falashas" meaning strangers — a term they consider derogatory. They managed to retain their Jewish distinctiveness despite drives against their faith and missionary campaigns.

Call for Mengistu trial

Ethiopia's new rulers have called for the extradition from Zimbabwe of Col. Mengistu, it was reported Friday.

The Independent Weekend Gazette also said Alois Chidoda, the Zimbabwe ambassador in Ethiopia, returned home a few days ago after his residence in Addis Ababa was attacked by demonstrators protesting Col. Mengistu's presence in Zimbabwe.

The newspaper said longstanding diplomatic ties between the two countries, both once hardline Marxist, were in jeopardy because Zimbabwe was unlikely to hand over Col. Mengistu to "elements" in the Ethiopian People's Democratic Front who were demanding his return.

No formal extradition treaty exists between Ethiopia and Zimbabwe.

The Zimbabwe Foreign Ministry refused to confirm Friday whether it received an extradition request and declined to explain the circumstances of Ambassador Chidoda's hurried departure from the Ethiopian capital.

Non-essential Zimbabwe embassy staff were evacuated from Ethiopia soon after Col. Mengistu and his family arrived in Harare on May 21.

Turkish premier faces party challenge

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut faced a severe challenge to his leadership at a congress of the ruling Motherland Party which opened on Saturday.

Security was tight at Ankara's Ataturk Gymnasium, where 1,172 delegates gathered. No visitors were allowed into the gallery and no flowers were admitted to the premises.

The centre right party founded by President Turgut Ozal, who was shot in the hand at a Motherland congress in 1988, is choosing the man to lead it into general elections due by 1992.

Since he became president in November 1989, Mr. Ozal has effectively ruled Turkey through his influence with Mr. Akbulut, whom he handpicked as party leader and prime minister.

The government's pliability to Mr. Ozal's powerful guiding hand has created growing strains within the party and drawn virulent criticism from opposition parties on

the left and right.

Mr. Ozal, theoretically above party politics, has declared his neutrality in the leadership struggle between the conservative Akbulut, liberal former Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz and conservative former Education Minister Hasan Celal Guzel.

A public opinion poll published by the mass-circulation newspaper Hurriyet on Friday said 54.8 per cent of Motherland supporters polled wanted Mr. Yilmaz as leader, 18.8 per cent preferred Mr. Akbulut and 5.6 per cent favoured Mr. Guzel.

The outcome of the two day congress will almost certainly result in a cabinet reshuffle even if Mr. Akbulut survives, since several of his ministers have declared support for Mr. Yilmaz.

Some Turkish newspapers said Motherland's popularity had dipped so low that the party had no chance of winning another general election whoever emerged as its leader.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

'Major urged Bush against ceasefire'

LONDON (AP) — A new biography of Prime Minister John Major says that he tried to stop President George Bush from calling a ceasefire in the Gulf war, the Times of London reported Friday. The newspaper said political journalist Bruce Anderson wrote in the biography that it was Mr. Major, not U.S. commander Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, who wanted the allies to continue hostilities for at least 24 hours. The aim, according to Mr. Anderson's "John Major: The Making of the Prime Minister," was to encircle Iraqi troops in southern Iraq. The book is to be published next week. The Times said sources at Mr. Major's 10 Downing Street office have confirmed Mr. Anderson's story. A Downing Street spokesman refused to confirm or deny the story. Mr. Bush ordered a ceasefire at midnight EST on Wednesday May 27 (0500 GMT Thursday). British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd was in Washington that day and met with Mr. Bush. The Times, quoting Mr. Anderson's book, said Mr. Hurd reported to Mr. Major that Mr. Bush planned to call a ceasefire, on the recommendation of the U.S. commanders, 100 hours after the outbreak of the ground war. Mr. Major then told Mr. Hurd to press for an extension of "at least 24 hours," the Times quoted Mr. Anderson as saying. "It was the British who questioned Bush's decision," wrote Mr. Anderson. "They could not understand this display of chivalry." Mr. Anderson also wrote, the Times said, that some British officials suspected the U.S. commanders saw "an overwhelming public relations advantage in ending the war in exactly 100 hours."

Sudan's rebel leader wants national unity

LAGOS (R) — Sudanese rebel leader John Garang says he is committed to national unity and a peaceful end to the country's eight year civil war, Nigerian newspapers reported on Saturday. "We are committed to a peaceful and just resolution of the crisis. We are ready to go any length when there is beacon of hope for peace," they quoted him as saying. Col. Garang was speaking before holding talks with Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida, the new chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), in Lagos Friday. Col. Garang, who met General Babangida three weeks ago in the northern Nigerian city of Minna, said both his Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and the government of President Omar Hassan Ali Bashir accepted Nigeria's mediation in the Sudanese conflict. Gen. Bashir, who seized power in 1989, met Gen. Babangida in Nigeria in December and February. Col. Garang said the SPLA, fighting against what it regards as the domination of mainly black and Christian southern Sudan by the predominantly Muslim north, was not seeking secession. "All we want is a new Sudan, built on a social justice, democracy and equal opportunities for all," he said. He said Sudan must be a secular state, operating under a system which accommodates people of different races and religions.

Tunisians probe deaths in detention

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia's independent human rights league said Saturday it was setting up a commission of inquiry into reports that Muslim fundamentalists have died and been tortured while in detention. The league said in a statement it had received numerous complaints of torture and named two detainees it said had died in suspicious circumstances: Abdelmajid Laarbi and Abdelaziz Mehwaoui. It said it feared Mr. Laarbi's death might be linked to his conditions of detention and interrogation: Tunisian officials denied the allegations. "There has been no torture since 1987 (when President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali came to power). The dead men do not appear on interior ministry registers as people arrested," one official said. The league said it was deeply concerned at the possibility that the practice of torture was spreading. It condemned torture "whatever the detainee might be and whatever the pretext," and asked the authorities to ensure that the rights of detainees are protected, to tell their families where they are and let them bring clothes and medicine. Official sources say some 300 members of the outlawed Muslim fundamentalist Nahdha movement have been arrested over the past weeks in connection with an alleged plot to overthrow the government. The league said it hoped President Ben Ali would order "a quick, honest and public inquiry" into the complaints of torture and death in detention. It said its previous approaches to the authorities has brought about minimal results.

Jobless Soviet emigres become tent dwellers

KARMIEL (R) — For some Soviet immigrants home in the promised land of Israel is a tent where lunch comes in a pail from a soup-kitchen.

Twenty-six Soviet families, unable to afford soaring rents, have moved into tents in Karmiel, a picturesque town in the galilee hills of northern Israel, their dreams of a new life in the Jewish state shattered.

The camp dwellers are jobless or underpaid former engineers, physicians and musicians. Some are so poor they get lunch at Rabbi Zvi's soup-kitchen and old clothes from his warehouse.

Most are middle-aged professionals whose Israeli economy cannot absorb and whose Israeli government resettlement grants ran out after a year.

"Tell me when, when will it be all right? In Russia I lived well, even great," said Aaron Glatman, 52, a radiologist from Makhachkala, Dagestan who immigrated 14 months ago.

Like many Soviet immigrant doctors, Glatman is unemployed. His wife, a nurse, works part-time for 200 dollars a month.

The landlord trebled the rent of their two-bedroom flat to \$600 a month when the lease expired. They had nowhere to go — the cheapest flats in town were \$500.

So last month Glatmans and 14 other families set up the first Soviet immigrant camp in Israel. Their outdoor community keeps growing as more immigrants complete a year in Israel and their state settlement grant runs out.

"Our food is air and rock," said Nathan Gezalav, a 42-year-old dentist from Baku, Azerbaijan, who earns \$600 a month working on a building site.

"For 22 years I was a dentist. Now there's no work. No money. Just this," he said, showing his calloused hands.

When the rent jumped to \$550 Gezalav pitched a tent for his unemployed psychiatrist wife and two young daughters.

It is furnished with a cradle, three camp beds and a camping gas stove for frying eggs and potatoes. The lavatory and shower are across the road at the state immigration office which Gezalav complains does nothing for him.

"The Israelis say 'patience, patience. How long must we have patience? patience to get work, patience for an apartment, patience to eat — to survive,'" he asked.

Five months ago Rahli Avraham Zvi Margalit realised the despair of some immigrants and opened a soup-kitchen where lunch is served daily to about 400 people.

"Some came to me with tears in their eyes and said it was the first time they had eaten hot food since arriving in the country," said Margalit.

The 36-year-old rabbi also collects blankets old clothes for the immigrants. "At first there was embarrassment, but the need was so great the embarrassment disappeared," he said.

"Indeed some have everything — a brand new car, video and a nicer apartment than I have. But others have nothing. I entered a house one day and asked the immigrant where his bed was — he pointed to his jacket. He slept wrapped in it on the floor."

About 250,000 Soviet Jews have come to Israel in the last 18 months straining the already sluggish economy of a tiny country of 4.9 million people.

Karmiel, known for its idyllic setting and rich culture, has attracted about 5,000 Soviet Jews who have boosted its population by one-fifth to 28,000.

If the influx persists, the population of this town of rolling green hills is expected to top

100,000 in five years.

In April alone, 144 families settled in Karmiel — more than in previous months — despite an overall drop in immigration to Israel from the Soviet Union as news of the hardships reaches Moscow.

The government gives each family a \$9,000 grant in the first year, but this is cut to \$50 a month in the second year when immigrants are expected to find jobs.

"If one person does not make good money, it's impossible to survive after the first year," said Lena Klopot, a 27-year-old violinist whose family of three also lives in a tent.

She earns about \$380 at the Karmiel conservatory with which she pays for food and nursery care for her two-year-old daughter. Her husband is still searching for work after taking a six-month state-run re-training course for Soviet engineers.

"It's a disaster. My husband feels awful. He knows all about computers and cannot find anything," Klopot said, adding: "He doesn't want to be an assembly line worker."

Of the 180 engineers, computer programmers and academics who finished a professional re-training course in Karmiel in April only 50 found work — and not always in their field.

The town has a prosperous industrial area which is still growing, but it will never absorb all the arriving experts.

About 100 Soviet physicians came to Karmiel last year. Only a handful of them found jobs in local clinics.

"It's a daily struggle to find work for the immigrants," said Mayor Adi Eldar. "These people must survive. I have grass and flowers all over my city, I can't give them that to eat."

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Cartoons
18:15 L'ecole de Faus
19:00 News in French
19:15 Documentary
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Ysa Minister
21:10 One World
22:00 News in English
22:30 Midnight Caller

PRAYER TIMES

03:55 Fajr
05:27 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
16:13 Dhuhr
19:35 Maghreb
20:10 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifich Tel. 80740
Assumption of God Church, Tel. 63785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 657440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terrace Church Tel. 62266

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623941

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751

Assumption International Church Tel. 685326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932

Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675491

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Gradual rise in temperatures will take place and winds will be north-westerly moderate to fresh. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./max. temp.

Amman 20 / 32

Aqaba 25 / 38

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Walid Smadi 683266
Dr. Rami Mawazi 894788
Dr. Mahmood Azam 819925
Dr. Mohammad Al Ajam 894184
Fina pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Aqaba pharmacy 637025
Naboukhi pharmacy 636762
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Mazen Abu Bakr (—)

Al Sharaf pharmacy 275825

ZARQA:
Dr. Abdul Karim Khushashneh (—)
Khafizh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate 661111

Rescue 63041

Civil Defence Emergency 199

Fire Brigade 811223

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 843402

Traffic Police 896390

Police Security Department 63021

Hotel Complaints 608800

Price Complaints 661176

Complaints 897467

Amman Municipality 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone

Repairs 623101

Abdull Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 771111

Radio Jordan 771111

Water Authority 680100

Public Security Department 815613

Electric Power 636140

Company 663681

RJ Flight Information 08-53200

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6

Akileh Maternity, J. Amn 642411/2

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Mulhas, J. Amman 636140

Palestine, Shamsani 664171/4

Shamsani Hospital 669131

University Hospital 845845

Al-Mushtak Hospital 667221/9

The Islamic, Abdali 664171/3

Al-Abdi, Abdali 664164/6

Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101/2

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26

Army, Marla 891611/1

Home News

JORDAN TIMES, SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 1991 3

Departing foreign companies required to have tax clearance

AMMAN (Petra) — All foreign companies are required to obtain clearance from the Income Tax Department prior to terminating their operations and leaving the country, according to a communiqué issued by Prime Minister Mudar Badran Saturday.

The communiqué, circulated to all government departments and public institutions, said that departments which have connections or undertake business with the foreign firms operating in the Kingdom should make it clear to them that they must get clearance from the Income Tax Department before they are allowed to leave the country after finishing their business.

The step was necessitated in view of the fact that numerous foreign firms that conducted business in the country had packed and left at the end of their projects without paying dues or settling payments to their own employees, the communiqué noted.

The communiqué said some of the firms had rented premises but failed to pay the rent upon the termination of their services in the Kingdom.

It was also noticed that some of these firms had been operating in the Kingdom without proper licence from the authorities which issue permits for foreigners to conduct business here in violation of the Jordanian laws particularly the Companies Law of 1989, the communiqué added.

Ministry warns against exploitation of pilgrims

MECCA (Petra) — The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Saturday made it clear that it would not tolerate any shortcomings on the part of the contractors undertaking the transportation and housing of pilgrims in Mecca and Medina and noted that pilgrims had been making some complaints about services.

The statement was made here by ministry Secretary General Ahmad Hilayel who leads the Jordanian pilgrimage mission to this year's Haj season.

Dr. Hilayel was speaking at a meeting with representatives of various Jordanian companies, senior officials from the Ministry of Awqaf and heads of the Jordanian missions to Mecca, following his tour of the pilgrims' residential areas.

Dr. Hilayel, who met with Saudi Arabian officials in Mecca voiced the Jordanian government's deep appreciation for facilities offered to pilgrims from Jordan and the occupied Arab territories by the Saudi authorities. He met with Fayeq Biari, director of the pilgrims services, who stressed that his country was keen on offering the best services to the Jordanian pilgrims.

The pilgrims, Dr. Hilayel said, will benefit from four clinics, which will be set up in Mecca, and camps for the pilgrims, to be set up near the holy sites and would be provided with all conveniences.

The pilgrims will be performing their religious duties and attending ceremonies in the coming week prior to the Eid Al Adha feast which falls next Saturday.

Woman stabs husband to death

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 28-year-old woman from Muqabein, near Amman, was reported to have killed her 39-year-old husband with a kitchen knife.

Al Dostour daily said that the victim was taken to Al Ouds Hospital, near the village of Muqabein, and was found to have died of a deep wound in his heart, caused by the stabbing with a sharp knife.

The report said that the murder must have been caused by a family feud as the man and his wife were heard quarrelling just before the murder occurred.

The paper said that the general prosecutor was holding an investigation into the crime.

Al Rai reported earlier that the public prosecutor was conducting an investigation into a case in which a 23-year-old man was murdered by a 25-year-old man identified by the police only as Ibrahim Sb.

The murder was said to have occurred on May 26, 1991, in Qweisib, south east of here, where the victim was found stabbed by a switch knife following a heated dispute with the assailant.

The paper reported a claim that the victim had in fact tried to stab the murderer and that Ibrahim had to stab his opponent in self-defence. He later carried him to the nearby Al Bashir Hospital for treatment, but the man was pronounced dead on arrival.

According to the report, the two had quarrelled previously on many occasions.



Health Minister Adnan Jaljoul Saturday addresses doctors attending a seminar on forensic medicine (Petra photo)

Doctors attend seminar on forensic medicine

AMMAN (Petra) — The World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Ministry of Health Saturday opened a training seminar on forensic medicine in Jordan, attended by 20 Jordanian doctors working for the ministry's hospitals and health centres.

Health Minister Adnan Jaljoul, who opened the seminar, underlined the importance of forensic medicine in the course of assisting the judicial authorities in discovering crimes and combating criminal activity in the country.

Dr. Munem Haddid, head of the Health Ministry's Forensic Medicine Department, said the seminar was designed to brief the doctors on modern means of analysing cases related to crimes.

The doctors will be discussing ways of analysing and reporting cases related to crime to the judicial authorities, which can follow up cases in the quest of finding criminals. The work also covers the study of various types of injuries or wounds, resulting from firing, and deaths.

The Forensic Medicine Department, established in 1987, serves as a training centre for Jordanian medical students at the universities. The department runs various clinics, laboratories and a morgue.

WHAT'S GOING ON

- EXHIBITIONS**
- ★ Exhibition of photographs by Bernard Guillot at the French Cultural Centre.
 - ★ An exhibition of paintings and sculptures by Shouqet Shoukri, Mohammed Al Jalous and Rifqi Al Razzaz at Abdel Hameed Shamoun Foundation (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).
 - ★ Palestinian heritage exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.
 - ★ Photo exhibition by Hans Richter at the Goethe Institute.
 - ★ Poster exhibition at the British Council.



Jordan Valley Authority Secretary General Abdul Aziz Wishah (fourth left) and representative of a Jordanian-German consortium Host Frantz Saturday sign a contract to carry out consultancy engineering services for Kafrein Dam, in the central Jordan Valley region (Petra photo)

Work under way for dam project

AMMAN (J.T.) — A consortium of German and Jordanian firms Saturday won a contract to carry out consultancy engineering services for raising the walls of the Kafrein dam, in the central Jordan Valley region, with the purpose of boosting its storage capacity from four to seven million cubic metres.

According to the Jordan news agency, Petra, the increased amount of water is required to irrigate lands in the Hasban, Kafrein and Rama districts of the Jordan Valley region, which, it said, lack sufficient water for crops in the dry season.

The consortium, made up of a Jordanian firm and the Salzgitter Consult G.M.B.H. Company of Germany, will carry out investigations and design activities up to the completion of the tendering phase for the construction work, which could be subject to financing by the European Investment Bank (EIB), according to the terms of the contract.

The study and design work are expected to cost JD 370,000, while the cost of the construction work will be JD 8 million, of which JD 4 million could be financed by the (EIB).

According to Petra, the project could take up to 30 months to be completed.

The agreement, signed with the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), also covers studies on sediment depositing, which tends to reduce the storage, and seepage through and under the dam, especially as the raising of the dam will increase the pressure on the bed and the body of the dam.

The agreement was signed by JVA Secretary General Abdul Aziz Wishah and Host Frantz, who represented the Jordanian-German consortium.

Jean Pierre-Pierard represented the European Community (EC) at the signing ceremony. Over the past three years the EC has been financing studies on the Wala and Nukheila dams.

The signing ceremony took place at the Ministry of Water and Irrigation.

Jordan, Germany discuss technical, financial ties

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A German delegation arrived in Jordan earlier this week to hold consultancy talks with Jordanian officials, including the minister of planning.

The delegation also held talks, Saturday, with Agriculture Minister Mohammad Alawneh. The meeting tackled promoting and enhancing certain projects carried out in Jordan as cooperation between the two countries. The delegation also discussed future joint ventures in the agricultural field, according to Petra news agency.

"The discussions are very important because we try to combine the policy of the Jordanian government with the development policy of the German government," said Gert-Robert Liptau, head of the Middle East Department of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation. The discussions involve a series of topics, such as agriculture, industry and trade, water and health, within the framework of technical and financial cooperation between Jordan and Germany.

The delegation, which leaves Sunday (today), said the outcome is "to go through all the different activities which are in the phase of execution and to get ideas about what can be done in the future and to what extent we can cooperate in certain fields," Mr. Liptau told the Jordan Times. "So, when government negotiations take place we will have details with which to work," he added.

In principle the government negotiations are to be held in November. During that time, the normal project work will continue and contacts between Germany and Jordan will be made, Mr. Liptau said.

The two countries have had development cooperation since the 1950s. Mr. Liptau explained that there are two main instruments, the capital and the technical cooperation. The capital, he said, is a soft term loan with a regular two per cent interest with a 10 years grace period, and 30 years repayment period.

"With regard to development cooperation it is important to note that there has never been any real interruption. It was only for security reasons (during the war) that experts were recalled to Germany," said Mr. Liptau. But now they are all back cooperating with the Jordanian government and other agencies in different fields, he added.

The German delegation comprises Mr. Liptau, Matthias Meyer, charge d'affaires at the German Embassy, Mr. von Aulock, head of Department for Jordan of the Bank for Reconstruction, Mr. Kher, head of the Near and Middle East Division of GTZ (the German Agency for Technical Cooperation) and Dr. Geinze, head of Section for Jordan at GTZ. "Our priority areas are in the field of water, agriculture and the environment," Mr. Liptau said.

In the agricultural field the main concern is arable land. Given the high population and the rise in birth rates as well as the returnees from the Gulf, "this adds additional political, financial and social burdens on Jordan," he said. "The supply of foodstuffs, potable water and the protection of the environment has even become more important," he added.

Jordan, according to a member of the German delegation, is among the countries that receive the highest assistance from Germany. In 1990 Dutchmark (DM) 180 million were granted to Jordan and in 1991 some DM 150 million were received by Jordan. "The most important thing is not so much channelling high amounts of money as it is to execute projects and to see to it that it benefits as many people as possible," Mr. Liptau affirmed.

There has been considerable improvement in practically every sector, the German official told the Jordan Times. "One cannot forget the difficult problems Jordan has faced, but water is one of the sectors where work is needed." Even though development has stepped up in virtually every sector, Mr. Liptau feels "more should be done."

The consultations come at a time when consequences of the Gulf crisis on the Jordanian economy, as well as the German-Jordanian projects, have to be evaluated and technical and financial cooperation has to find its path back to its pre-crisis level, according to a press release issued by the German Embassy.

Following Jordan's emergency situation, Germany cooperated with Jordan in the field of structural adjustment in the West Bank, with combined efforts with international partners in order to come up with jointly agreed policies (between the Jordanian activities such as trade and industry development," Mr. Liptau said.

In terms of technical assistance, there are two German experts in seed production. The amount so far allocated to the project is DM 9.1 million. "The results have been remarkable," Mr. Liptau observed. "I met with the two experts. They said that their advisory services and their results concerning seed production and multiplication are according to schedule."

Mr. Liptau added that the actual project phase terminates by August 1991, but "we are discussing prospects of a post phase cooperation and we have even been supplied with a proposal to enter into a new field of activities in seed production."

Mr. Liptau said this was still at a preliminary stage and would be announced when government negotiations take place.

Another significant project is forestation, whose target is to better qualify the forestry administration in fulfilling its task. "What can be seen in forestation should be taken seriously because not only do forests make pretty scenery, they are important for safeguarding water reservoirs and preventing soil erosion." A new financial investment has been allocated to the amount of DM 3.5 million.

In conclusion, Mr. Liptau said, "we are jointly engaged in very important sectors in the development process of the Kingdom." He said Germany's assistance was in line with the King's policies, spelled out in the charter, giving priority to areas of water, agriculture, environment and education.

Prince Hassan, ADC head review Middle East issues

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan met at his office Saturday with Albert Mkhelber, chairman of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), and his accompanying team now on a visit to Jordan.

They reviewed with the Crown Prince the general situation in the Middle East, peace initiatives to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem.

Crown Prince Hassan emphasised the need for comprehensive and integrated solutions for the Middle East problems, within a framework of security, cooperation and justice, taking into consideration the human element and the requirements of economic development for the people of the whole region.

The team members presented a briefing of their activities in the United States and their continued endeavor to defend Arab community's interests in the face of hostile campaigns. They said that the committee was exerting constant efforts to bolster its ties with political and social groups in the United States.

The team later met Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Latif Arabiyat to discuss Middle East question.

Mr. Mkhelber told Dr. Arabiyat that his committee was striving to orient the American people on the facts and the situation in the Middle East region, demanding that one criterion be used in all world issues and that the international legitimacy should be implemented without any discrimination.

He said that the Israeli prime minister was now trying to abort the peace process by building more settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

Mr. Mkhelber said his committee, established in 1980, groups 25,000 members and has 70 branches throughout the American states.



Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Latif Arabiyat Saturday holds talks with Albert Mkhelber, head of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (Petra photo)

Tawjihi impersonators nabbed

By Ahmad Kreishan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In an unprecedented case in Jordan, two teenage girls were caught impersonating their own brothers while sitting for the tawjihi examination, organised by the Ministry of Education for students who just completed their secondary school education.

The two sisters, identified only as N.S.A. and T.S.A. were found to have donned boys outfits and sat for three examinations so far in the ongoing final examination taken by tawjihi students for the 1990-91 scholastic year.

"They would have continued sitting for the remaining subjects of examination had they not been checked by policemen at the entrance of one of the examination halls, said Ministry of Education officials.

They said the same girls, following the same procedure, had sat for the first session of the tawjihi examination, last January, and passed with 73 per cent and 61 per cent grades respectively, without being discovered by the police or the Ministry of Education officials.

They said that the two girls in both instances had carried official documents allowing them permission to enter the examination halls.

One of the sisters, N.S.A. who was taking her brother's examination at Hasna Bint Muwawieh School, was entering the examination hall Saturday as usual when a policeman guarding the entrance, noticed that her left ear was pierced (obviously for an earring). She was stopped and had to admit that she was a girl. Full confession about herself and her sister, who was taking the examinations for her other brother at Adib Wahbeh School, followed, the officials added.

They said that the two girls were immediately detained for questioning.

In another incident Saturday, another student was found to be sitting for the English language examination impersonating another and carrying his registration card.

In a third episode yet, one of the students was discovered Saturday to have climbed into a classroom where the examination questions were kept and passed them on to a friend sitting for the same examination in another hall.

Normally students discovered cheating in general examinations are barred from taking the examination session and considered as having failed. But Tawjihi students are allowed to sit for examinations in other sessions.

Seminar tackles marketing of local agricultural produce

By Serene Halasa
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A seminar on marketing Jordanian agricultural products has been held by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The seminar will help the ministry prepare for the annual national agricultural conference to be held in September.

At the opening of the seminar, the third of its kind, Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Alawneh stressed the need to develop a healthy marketing policy and to bypass present difficulties. "Marketing in Jordan is faced with many problems, but we have to overcome these problems and reduce their negative repercussions," Mr. Alawneh said.

He also added that extensive studies had been conducted in this field, by Jordanian experts, as part of United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) project that supports sound agricultural marketing policies in Third World countries.

During the seminar, representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture presented a number of papers tackling current and future marketing policies and ways to market and develop animal wealth in Jordan.

Attending the seminar was Dr. Peter Mueller, an agricultural economist and advisor to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Dr. Mueller's advisory status at the ministry is part of a joint Jordanian-German agricultural and technical assistance programme.

"My job is to set up a small unit at the ministry to deal with agricultural policy analysis," Dr. Mueller told the Jordan Times. "The purpose of the unit is to advise the ministry on issues and problems of agricultural policy. It is not a decision-making unit," he added.

Dr. Mueller informed the Jordan Times that the Ministry of Water and Irrigation also has an advisory unit similar to that of the Ministry of Agriculture.

"The (advisory) unit has supported a number of studies on fundamental issues that will be discussed at seminars in preparation for the national agricultural conference in September," Dr. Mueller said.

So far, Dr. Mueller added, two seminars were held to discuss the use of natural resources and agricultural institutions. "Future seminars will discuss price policies and will take a general look at the role of agriculture in Jordan," he added.

A German delegation is currently in Jordan, Dr. Mueller added, to offer Jordan technical assistance in various fields, especially water and agriculture. "They will donate 50 million Deutschmarks (\$10 million) to the water and agricultural sectors in Jordan," he said.

Commenting on the recent ongoing debate concerning the forests, Dr. Mueller said that his unit "has not been consulted on this topic." "I think the main question is how to make use of the forest land, and how to sustain it," he said.

Dr. Mueller, who insisted he was not an expert in the forestry field, said that only old forest land should be used as grazing reserves in times of emergencies.

ANNOUNCEMENT

JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES Co. Ltd.

Jordan Phosphate Mines Co., Ltd announces that the closing date of tender No 10F/91 (for the design and procurement of a granulation plant) have been extended until 12 hours local time Monday, July 29, 1991.

Wasef Azar
Managing Director

Jordan Times

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Democracy, more democracy

THE MEETING which the prime minister held Wednesday with parents and citizens concerned about the so-called "politicisation" of education in the Kingdom is, hopefully, the beginning of a process, and not an end to a one-time, grassroot campaign warranted only by certain circumstances.

If enough attention and care is paid to it, the process that might have been started by the meeting could serve as a cornerstone in the democratic edifice that we are trying to build in this country. The "how" and "why" are more or less academic questions. Let us, however, look at the dynamic side of the issue.

Before the present minister of education could get his job back in January, his group in Parliament agreed to join Mr. Badran's cabinet as a junior partner. It was for all practical purposes a coalition — and the people took it as such. The minister knew what he wanted from the post and started taking a series of decisions that would serve him and his party's ideological aims. When his decisions alienated and angered a certain sector of the population, a group of them mobilised instantly and took it upon themselves to organise meetings and have a petition signed by over 5,000 people. They eventually took the petition along with their grievances to see the prime minister, who assured them that what they did was exactly the kind of political exercise needed to oil the wheels of democracy. Citizens should not be afraid to practise their democratic rights in protesting against any government decision they did not like, Mr. Badran is quoted as telling the group of parents. In this country everybody is safe and secure and free to express his or her honest opinion, he noted. "Now, let us look at what the controversial decisions are and see what we can do about them," his interlocutors quoted him as saying.

Not long before the Wednesday session, there was a regular meeting of the council of ministers. Muslim Brotherhood members of the council reportedly protested to Mr. Badran that they were being singled out for attack by the press in Jordan. They apparently wanted from him to put an end to this "unfair" campaign by journalists. The prime minister's reply was two-pronged, according to well-informed sources. First, he asked his Islamist colleagues whether they ever wrote back to the newspapers which were attacking them but were not published. And the answer was of course a resounding no, since the law gives the right to everybody to reply to press accusations and the premier's first priority and job is to enforce the law under all circumstances. Second, he asked his colleagues whether they remembered the grilling and tough questioning — even accusations — that he himself had to endure when submitting his cabinet for approval in early parliamentary sessions and later on. "Is not this democracy?" he reportedly asked the disgruntled ministers.

Without going an inch deep into discussing the issue of education and the controversy surrounding it, a glance at the dynamic involved in its unravelling gives us hope and confidence that a new, lively process in our democratisation has been started. While there remains much to say about our educational system, for now the real issue is democracy and more democracy.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i daily commented on the outcome of talks in Washington between the Israeli and the U.S. foreign ministers and said that they resulted in nothing, with the Jewish state showing increased intransigence with regard to a peace settlement. The paper noted that though the Israeli foreign minister had claimed that the peace process was still on, there is no doubt that it is dead, thanks to the Israeli government's stand. It seems to observers that neither Washington nor Israel wishes to cause any embarrassment to the other before the world public opinion; and therefore each side continues to stall and to manoeuvre, but during all this time Israel continues to obtain billions of dollars in financial and military aid from Washington, the paper noted. It said that there is no doubt now that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's shuttle diplomacy in the past months was no more than a form of public relations between Washington on the one hand and the Arab countries on the other. Washington is now clearer than ever before not interested in establishing peace, and it is not serious in forcing the Israelis to abide by the international legitimacy, the paper added. It said that it should be noted that while the U.S. is trying to impose new conditions on Iraq because of its brief occupation of Kuwait, it is at the same time condoning Israel's occupation of Arab lands which has lasted for more than 24 years during which the Jewish state has consistently defied the UN Security Council and the will of the international community.

For its part, Sawt Al Shaab daily said that with the failure of the talks in Washington by the U.S. and Israeli foreign ministers, the ball is now clearly in the Israeli court, because it is Israel which continues to oppose the U.S. initiative and reject Security Council resolutions. Israel's position with regard to the implementation of Security Council resolutions has not changed neither has it accepted a U.S. initiative to hold a peace conference to end the Middle East issue, the paper noted. Sawt Al Shaab said that there is no doubt that the Israeli government is stalling for time, milking the U.S. of its money and building settlements to create new realities and issuing new conditions for negotiating peace with the Arabs. In fact, and as Foreign Minister Taher al Masri has said, the Israelis have no intention of holding a peace conference or sitting at the negotiating table with the Arabs, the paper added. It said that the Soviet Union seems to have started realising this fact, because its foreign minister has lately said that the stumbling block now lies in Israel's refusal of the idea of a peace conference which can solve the issue. What is needed now is a new Soviet position and a new role on the part of Moscow, in concert with the United States, to exert pressure on Israel to accept the international legitimacy and implement U.N. resolutions.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Jordan's economic performance in 1990

JORDAN's gross domestic product (GDP) may have risen during 1990 by 1.1 per cent in current prices, but it had declined in real terms by around 7.9 per cent. This drop is a painful blow to the economy in normal circumstances especially when we take into account the increase of population by around 10 per cent of which natural growth is responsible for 3.5 per cent and the balance due to returnees from Kuwait and the Gulf and their families.

But this drop in GDP is much milder than was anticipated by some analysts under the impact of the Gulf crisis and war which rocked the Jordanian economy and hit hard on all sources of foreign exchange including Arab aid, expatriates' remittances and export markets of goods and services.

The official figures of the national accounts for the year 1990 are not ready or available yet, but the estimates made by the experts of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), who visited the country last month for annual consultations, indicate that various productive sectors of the economy reflect varying degrees of performance. The Gulf crisis did hit certain sectors such as tourism and transport which it did not affect other sectors.

The table given below shows value added of each economic sector during 1990 in millions of Jordan dinars. The percentage of positive or negative growth is calculated in current prices, and the

real growth, after excluding change in prices using a sectorial deflator, is quite different from one sector to another and of course different from the cost of living index.

The figures suggest that agriculture, electricity and water show a substantial real growth, while manufacturing industry, government services and other services show a relative stability. The sectors of transport and communication, construction, trade, tourism, and mining and quarrying, in that order, suffered a lot.

The huge difference between gross domestic product and gross national product represents mainly interest due on foreign debt. They were taken into account even though a major part was not actually paid.

Jordan's social problems were aggravated by the fact that the standard of living before the Gulf crisis was around 35 per cent below the level of 1987 due to the economic crisis of 1988 and the application of the IMF austerity programme. In 1990 the gross domestic product was 2 per cent down while population were 10 per cent up, another decline in the per capita income and standard of living of over 16 per cent.

Economic sector	Value added	Nominal growth	Real growth
Agriculture	168.4	+17.9%	+6.1%
Mining	179.2	+11.1%	-6.9%
Manufacturing	336.3	+8.7%	-1.0%
Electricity and water	61.1	+12.3%	+8.1%
Construction	136.7	+5.8%	-30.3%
Trade and tourism	313.8	-2.8%	-16.9%
Transport and comm.	207.8	-32.4%	-38.5%
Govt. services	436.3	+4.2%	+0.1%
Other services	410.8	+4.8%	+1.4%
GDP — Cost	2250.4	+0.6%	-8.7%
GDP — Market	2567.4	+1.1%	-7.9%
GNP — Market	2257.3	-3.9%	-14.6%

The Middle East's future: time to learn a new script?

By Jezza Giray

EVENTS in Iraqi Kurdistan highlight a pressing need to address a cognitive disorder in Western political thinking with regard to Third World politics: that Western models can be successfully exported wholesale around the world. This has been a long and difficult path in the Middle East, Africa and Asia. The urgent need to examine this attitude anew is apparent in some dangerous misapprehensions concerning the specific interests of the Kurdish people and in the terms of our concern for the peace and security of the region.

A typical example is the wishful thinking that the revolt against Saddam Hussein is the "Arab World's first mass democratic uprising." It must be faced that Iraq fulfils none of the most basic preconditions for democracy. Firstly there is no consensus. There are too many ingrained differences between the three main components of Iraq (Sunni Arab, Shiite Arab and Kurds) compounded by the mass of splinter groups. The 23 or, so "parties in exile" which comprise the "Iraqi opposition" are not a monolithic body and do not necessarily represent the views of the grass-roots in Iraq.

Secondly, there is no tradition or even memory of democracy. What is needed is a collective and pervasive democratic psyche at grass-roots level. For example when Alexis de Tocqueville visited the new-born and democratic U.S., he was impressed by the democratic committees which emerged from below, not imposed from above; the free press which acted as an effective check on authoritarian-minded politicians; and the democratic education that conditioned and trained its citizens in the democratic process. In the case of Iraq it is less the "tyranny of the majority" than the tyranny of yet another minority that we may see emerge.

Islamic reformers will claim that there is a well established tradition of democracy in Islam as embodied in the notion of *shura* (consultation), and will frequently cite *hadith* or "traditions" of the Prophet consulting with his peers before the battle of Badr. However this is so remote as to constitute a political antiquarianism.

The existence of a reasonably sophisticated infrastructure and a functioning communications system is also an important precondition for democracy. However 30 years of revolt against Baghdad in Kurdish areas and the toll of first the Iranian and then the Gulf and civil wars have left Iraq devastated.

Finally a moderately equitable distribution of resources is crucial for a state to sustain a democratic system. "Democracy" is clearly meaningless if part of the population is below the poverty level and another part controls all the means of production. Moreover since the majority of the Kurdish and indeed Iraqi population are very poor, notions of "democracy" are at best academic. It is therefore premature, not to say dangerous, to imagine that democracy is the panacea for Kurdish and Iraqi ills.

The notion of the nation-state

Another pressing area for reappraisal in Western attitudes concerns notions on the nation-state and political self-determination. While I applaud the emerging consensus among Western governments and media that the Kurds should be offered a form of autonomy, and that we should eschew any ideas of an independent Kurdish state, it is time to

articulate a general international political principle out of this specific consensus. The West must rethink the traditional position (enshrined in the U.N. Charter) that all nations on earth have the automatic and God-given right to political self-determination, usually interpreted as implying separatism and independence.

The nation-state idea is fundamentally of Western and recent provenance. (Nation-states were imposed on the Arab World after World War I in arrogant abrogation of British and French assurances of Arab unity). The result is that Iraq, for example, is an artificial Western construct without history and, more importantly, lacking in political legitimacy. Therefore, the persistent Western attitude that regional peace and security would be ensured by "preserving the integrity of Iraq" and blessing it with democracy is plagued with conflicts.

"The liberals have been no less zealous and patronising and more insidious than their imperialist grandfathers, in their doctrinal brow-beating of their Third World neighbours. More insidious since their motives are guilt for the past and a genuine belief in the superior benefits of their democratic catechism. The West should overcome its stridently evangelical mission to erect mutated clones of its own political models everywhere, particularly where the democratic soil and socio-political climate are not appropriate."

The Kurdish Democratic Party spokesman in London, Mr. Sherwan Dizaee, freely admits that on the issue of "autonomy," "we look at the situation pragmatically, since independence is not possible just now internationally, and regionally... but we believe that the Kurds have the right to self-determination and their own state." It is clear that the policy of the Kurdish opposition is to assuage regional and international sensibilities by speaking the language of conciliation — that is "democracy" and "federalism" — within Iraq for the time being.

The identity of the secular nation-state of "Iraq," in the way in which it was constituted along creaked Western models under the Ba'ath, may carry as much emotive weight among ordinary "Iraqis" as say a football club does among its local supporters. Many will pledge a superficially emotive loyalty to it, but are unlikely to want to die for it. New-fangled myths like the Iraqi state are much less likely to garner mass support than more time-honoured, traditional categories like Islam.

This is well evidenced by Saddam's use of Islamic terminology in shameless reversal of secular claims when it came to the crunch. Saddam is a cunning political opportunist of the first order, who well appreciates (as others have before him) the political utilitarianism of Islamic ter-

minology. In the absence of alternative structures with sufficient political legitimacy to mobilise the masses of Iraq, he recognised the compelling and historic power of these traditional networks of loyalty.

The liberals have been no less zealous and patronising and more insidious than their imperialist grandfathers, in their doctrinal brow-beating of their Third World neighbours. More insidious since their motives are guilt for the past and a genuine belief in the superior benefits of their democratic catechism. The West should overcome its stridently evangelical mission to erect mutated clones of its own political models everywhere, particularly where the democratic soil and socio-political climate are not appropriate.

The model of the Ottoman Empire

In its search for a new and legitimate identity the new Iraq may find a rootedness in its recent history: the Ottoman Empire is a model that is not exclusive to the inheritance of any specific community (not even Turk) but part of the pool of shared experiences.

I do not mean to suggest that the Ottoman Empire (which died after a long and protracted illness as the "Sick Man of Europe") should be resurrected, but that the Western hegemony on political thinking should be challenged in favour of Ottoman models. There are many valuable lessons here, both institutionally in its federated structure and devolution of considerable power in such key areas as education, indigenous administration and financial management; and attitudinally, in the traditional tolerance of its multitudinous ethnic and religious communities.

Since it cannot be gainsaid that Islam remains the chief source of political legitimacy, and since grafts of Western structures have proved so signal a failure, perhaps it is time for elites in the Middle East to take the initiative away from the fundamentalist Jacobins and Sans-Culottes. The overriding potency of Islam is a strong consideration for moderate reformers to elevate it to the level of principle on their own terms. The manipulative potential of ideology must be as firmly fixed in the minds of such moderates as it evidently was for Machiavellian charlatans like Saddam. Clearly, "Islam," like "Socialism" for example, is what you make of it.

Such a development would seem to predicate yet again on the West's willingness to adjust its perceptions. In particular it requires a willingness and ability to demythologise, and indeed "undemonise" Islam. It was this unfortunate perception of Iran, after all, which is responsible for the Western build-up of Saddam until their recent quarrel with him.

The highly heterogeneous Ottoman Empire, with its semi-autonomous regions and millet system, provided a reasonable inter-communal harmony in its vast territories for many hundreds of years. That is, until Western nations wiped away this time-honoured and "divinely sanctioned" inheritance in favour of their own alien ideas. As Iraq attempts to rise out of its ashes, the Western and Eastern protagonists of this drama should throw away the old script and prepare to learn new lines.

Jezza Giray is a free-lance writer living in London. The article is reprinted from Middle East International.

Shadow of a martyr stalks the Saudis

By Helga Graham

ONLY two months after the Gulf war against Iraq, Saudi Arabia is facing religious unrest that may prove harder to control than oil-well fires.

The challenge to its regime is growing within its own most pious element — as the start of the volatile pilgrimage period for Muslims looms on June 20.

Amid news of Wahhabite preachers suspended by King Fahd's half-brother and demonstrations on their behalf in the Al Qasim region of the Nejd, near Riyadh — the Saudi equivalent of the Home Counties — a Saudi source said: "There is no means of judging its strength, but there is a built-in explosive charge in the increased power of the religious movement, particularly as it has spread to the army."

Twelve years on, the shadow of Juhainan — the extraordinary young man beheaded following his armed takeover of Mecca's Grand Mosque with several hundred *Ikhwan* or Muslim Brothers — casts a shadow over the regime.

The importance of Juhainan is that he came from the religiously tribal heartland of the Nejd that has traditionally supported the Al Saud family. Within his apocalyptic theology and anti-modernism lay a revolt in the name of Islamic purity against the corrupt lifestyle, bad financial management and autocracy of the royal family.

Juhainan also rejected the Wahhabite religious authorities, the *ulemas*, accusing them of selling out to the Al Sauds. Interrogated about his arms cache, Juhainan replied: "You think it's difficult? The king smuggles in his whisky and drugs, I did the same."

The regime disregarded the warning to reform. The reactionary religious movement increased its power and religious police now take people from their homes by force.

Over the past two years there has been a big increase in the fire-and-brimstone religious tapes against the royal family circulating in Saudi. During the war, sermons were preached against the infidel West, but also against domestic abuses.

One overt sign of the seriousness of the situation is the memorandum delivered to King Fahd on May 18 by a group of Saudi religious leaders, demanding a full-blooded theocracy with representative institutions that would curb the power of the Al Sauds.

One theory current in Saudi inner circles is that the *ulemas* petition may be intended to lead to the replacement of King Fahd by his heir, Prince Abdullah, head of the National Guard.

With its oil wealth drastically pruned, Saudi is again being reclaimed by its own history, as the desert claims deforested land. In the past decade, close to \$160 billion reserves have been squandered, leaving Saudi with only around \$40 billion in International Monetary Fund and U.S. Treasury bonds.

Although largely excluded from power, 65 per cent of the population is *Hejazi* — people of the western seaboard who were conquered by King Abdul Aziz's bedouin troops in the 1920s.

Shi'ites an underprivileged minority of 15 per cent, have had their revolts in sympathy with Iraqi Shi'ites brutally repressed. The ruling Nejd Wahhabites, who control the armed forces, are also a minority of around 15 per cent. Among them, the *Ikhwan* are a tiny fraction.

Traditionally, the Al Saud family has shared power with the Wahhabite *ulemas* on a 75:25 basis, with puritan zeal threatening the balance when the regime

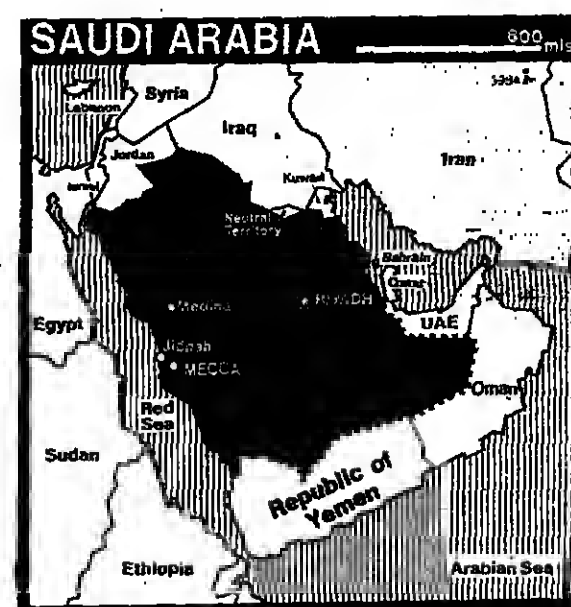
is weak. The *Ikhwan* are again in the ascendant, their numbers swollen by thousands of students, trained in Wahhabite religious institutions, who "think like a thousand years ago because they were trained to think like that."

"All the leadership comes from Qasim, and 70 per cent of the movement," said an informed Saudi source. "Another danger is, off with a majority of seats in the middle class from Qasim, who control the major branches of government and financial institutions, are ready in their bid for power to make common cause with the *Ikhwan* against the Saudis."

Saudi liberals argue that genuine democratic reform would reveal how unrepresentative the religious fundamentalists are. But the problem is the democracy has only been used as an instrument of pressure within the royal family.

In 1965, Fahd, then interior minister, used the threat against King Faisal, who told him to stop the nonsense, which he did. No Fahd may try to buy the *Ikhwan* off with a majority of seats in projected assembly.

"If we had real freedom of speech," argues a Saudi liberal "as opposed to the artificial assembly now planned, the religious minority would be isolated since the vast majority of Saudis oppose them." — The Observer



LETTERS

Glory for the Super Superpower

IT WAS "the power and the glory" that once made America feel great. But in the land of superlatives "great" was not good enough. It had to be super. So the United States became a superpower. By reaching out for the second super to become a super-superpower they violated the basic rule of history that says: every power has to have its limitations. As it seems, in Vietnam history decided to stick to its rules and to play by its rules no matter how dirty the U.S. would play. It was then that the American dream changed into the American nightmare. Although the power was still there, the glory got lost somehow in the jungles of Vietnam and was never recovered (maybe it even deserted). Many attempts were made to get it back: Grenada, Lebanon, Panama — but the glory remained missing in action. It was a disaster, a national tragedy, a trauma.

Finally, when the second superpower started to lose her super status there was the unique chance to "kick the Vietnam thing," to go and get the missing-link of American identity back (no linkage — just get the link back).

There had always been rumours that America's glory was out there in Arabia Deserta. Not the time had come to check that out. America's finest were brought into Desert Storm to recover the long lost glory. And the rumours were right, it was indeed out there, hiding in the quicksands between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, waiting to be picked up by some heroes. But the "boys" didn't like the Arabian Desert where the days are filled with sun, and sand, and scorpions, and silence, and the nights with frightening echoes of bloody battles fought long ago. So they decided to look somewhere else for that glory — apparently in Baghdad's sewage system. What could they possibly find there, one might ask. Well, it seems they found something that could pass as what they were looking for. Because we were told that there was a victory, and even a "decisive" one — how decisive one wonders with sanctions still needed and the demand on Iraq to destroy her own weapons. But then, what does that matter now? The nation is whole again, the nation is happy again, celebrating cheerfully the "decisive victory" over sewage and water systems, over electricity and communication networks, over bridges, schools, hospitals, over civilian air raid shelters and thousands of innocent people. The glory is back, back at last.

Only what will happen when the Hollywood teams for camouflage, make-up, and special effects leave the army, and people begin to realise that the glory brought home from Arabia Deserta is not at all the glory that was deserted in Vietnam? Will there be another war "to kick the Gulf Thing"? Or is there a chance that even America will come to learn the two basic lessons of history: that "a nation which cannot afford to lose should not wage war" and that "war is the intelligence of doom?"

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مكتبة الأصل

Life after the death of Socialism

By David Marquand

FOR the best part of a century, the socialist vision of a world remade haunted the imaginations of the idealistic and the dispossessed. It inspired passionate loyalties, mobilised extraordinary energies and survived innumerable betrayals and disappointments. Now it has dimmed.

In some countries, nominally socialist parties remain in power but they have prospered only to the extent that they have abandoned socialism. In most places, the word, as well as the thing, is in full retreat. The epic struggle between capitalism and socialism is over, and capitalism has won.

Yet there is an irony here which triumphant conservatives and liberals are unwilling to confront. The capitalism which has won is not the capitalism of the 19th century fathers of free-market economics or today's New Right. Nor, for that matter, is it the capitalism analysed and ex-coriated by Marx. It is the regulated, corporatist, socialistic capitalism which emerged un-planned, as a second-best compromise, from the improvisations of war and post-war reconstruction. Just as socialism concedes to prosper only to the extent that it is not socialist, so capitalism has triumphed only because it is no longer capitalist.

The reasons why it stopped being capitalist are manifold. The strange symbiosis between public power and private ownership which used to be called the mixed economy, and which it is now fashionable to call the social-market economy, has an appropriately varied ancestry. The interests of big business, the teachings of the church, the imperatives of national survival in a cut-throat world economy and the aspirations of the professional salariat, private and public, all helped to bring it into being. But it is doubtful if these would have done the trick if the moral and political challenge of socialism had not been omnipresent in the background. Capitalism put it's house in order because socialism put it on its mettle.

Now that the challengers are silent, what happens to the challenge? The conventional wisdom, shared by the dispirited left as well as the exultant right, is that nothing much will happen: victorious capitalism will march ever onwards, its progress disturbed only by occasional petty disputes over the details of the route. I am not so sure. The reformed, welfare capitalism we have come to take for granted is a gift of history, as fragile as it is precious. There was nothing inevitable about the compromises that brought it into being, and there is nothing inevitable about the subtle moral and political balance that sustains it. With no external pressure to keep it reformed, that balance could easily be wrecked. The last 10 years have shown there are plenty of wreckers about.

Although the early socialists were wrong in thinking that they could resolve the contradictions of capitalism, they were right in seeing that unregulated capitalism could not generate its own resolution. Now, as much as in Marx's day, market forces cannot by themselves meet social costs or ensure distributive justice. Left to itself, the capitalist free market still despoils the environment,

both social and natural, and rewards the strong, while punishing the weak. It is a marvellous servant but a disastrous master. In one of the greatest achievements of the second half of this century, a few favoured societies learned to convert it from master to servant. But the rise of the New Right has warned us that a smug and vainglorious capitalism may not remember the lesson. And if it is forgotten, the prospect is of evermore fragmented societies and an evermore ravaged planet.

Before consigning socialism to a pauper's grave, it would be as well to re-examine the corpse. Exactly what has died, and how? Has anything survived? Granted that socialism can no longer claim to have valid answers, can it still ask worthwhile questions? Granted, above all, that capitalism is now in the ascendant, is there anything in socialism's legacy to help us to secure the achievements of the post-war period and save the victim from itself?

The first thing to notice is that the corpse is a more complicated creature than the conventional wisdom allows. Socialism had at least five dimensions. It was, in the first place, an ethic. It was a difficult ethic to put into words, and socialists disagreed among themselves about how best to do so. Central to almost all their gropings, however, were words like cooperation, commonwealth and fellowship.

Classical socialism was not primarily about equality, as the Galskellite revisionists imagined in the 1950s. Still less was it about liberty, as Roy Hattersley and Bryan Gould have insisted more recently. The term in the revolutionary triad that mattered most to socialists, the term that encapsulated the essence of the socialist ideal, was fraternity. That was what William Morris meant when he said that fellowship was heaven and the lack of fellowship was hell. It also lay behind Marx's gnomic formulation, "from each according to his abilities, to each according to his needs." In non-sexist language, we might call it "community."

Secondly, socialism was an economic theory. Here too there were disputes, sometimes violent, within the socialist camp. Now that the fires have burned low, however, we can see that the differences were much less significant than the similarities.

Socialists of all kind, Fabians as well as Marxists, gradualists as well as revolutionaries, took it for granted that social ownership would be more efficient than private, and a planned economy more than the free market. The mighty productive powers of modern industry were held back by the chaos of private competition. In a socially-owned economy in which production would be of use, not profit, and with the blind fumbling of the capitalist entrepreneur replaced by conscious social direction — these powers would be liberated. The result would be a Promethean upsurge of wealth creation, freeing mankind at last from the tyranny of want.

Not only was socialism an economic theory, it was also a science of society. Like their liberal adversaries, socialists were children of the enlightenment and suffused with its imperious rationalism. Society, they

assumed, followed a determinate path towards a knowable goal. That goal was socialism. It was coming, not only or even mainly because it was right but because it was inevitable. Socialism thus had two faces. Socialists were, of course, committed partisans, embattled advocates of human emancipation. But, in their own eyes at least, they were also dispassionate inquirers, teasing out the laws of social development as physicists and biologists teased out the laws of nature.

"Socialism was a secular religion. It had a heaven and a hell; saints and sinners; martyrs and persecutors; heretics and heresy-hunters; saved and damned; clergy and laity. Above all, it had eschatology — a science of last things. One day, the expropriators would be expropriated, the humble would be exalted and a new society, free of exploitation and injustice, would arise from the ruins of the old. No one knew when that day would come but there was no doubt that it would come."

These two faces reinforced each other. Socialists claimed a special moral authority by virtue of their special mastery of social dynamics. Of course, they did not all picture these dynamics in the same way. Marxist historical materialism and Fabian gradualism sprang from different philosophical roots and pointed to different practical conclusions. As on economics, however, these differences seem less significant in retrospect than the similarities. Sidney Webb was as confident as Marx that he had charted the course society was destined to follow and that his prescriptions for the future were uniquely compelling because he had done so.

Once in power, Fabians were as Marxists to treat society as a set of building blocks, to be rearranged in accordance with a scientific grand design. And although socialists like Rosa Luxemburg or even Keir Hardie put their faith in the spontaneous anger of the masses rather than in the laws of history, they were in a minority — icons rather than exemplars.

Fourthly, socialism was the vehicle of a social interest — the instrument, inspiration and mentor of the labour movement. To be sure, the relationship between vehicle and passenger was often ambivalent and always problematic. Socialist doctrine, again whether revolutionary or gradualist, allotted a unique, redemptive role to the proletariat. Unfortunately, real, live proletarians did not all want to be redeemed. They cheered the vision of a new society on high days and holidays but on weekdays their aims were more prosaic — better wages, better conditions, a better future for their children. And so the literature of socialism is full of complaints about the narrow horizons, limited ambitions, short-sighted materialism and dull-headed stolidity of the working class, while the history of organised labour is full of tensions between the practical needs of working men and women and the pure flame of the socialist ideal.

Yet it would be wrong to exaggerate these tensions. In spite of them, millions of working people came to view themselves and their destiny through the prism of socialist theory. For, in varying degrees, socialism shaped the political and economic culture of the working class in almost all industrial countries outside North America.

It was a school for citizenship, a source of self-discipline and self-respect. It threw a glow of principle over the everyday struggle,

not private, that holds back the productive powers of modern industry; direction, not the market, that produces the most grotesque misallocations and the most crippling bottlenecks.

To be sure, the doctrinaire apologists for the free market are as mistaken as the doctrinaire socialists, whom they mimic unintentionally. The economies which have succeeded most spectacularly are those with developmental states, where public power has canalised market forces so as to make them flow in the desired direction. But the developmental state is as remote from the socialist state, whether Marxist or Fabian, as from the Nightwatchman State of classical economics.

The social science of socialism has fared no better. Imperious enlightenment, rationalism and scientific social engineering are now discredited, on the left even more than on the right. We have learned that the social sciences are quite different in character and logical status from the natural sciences. We are also beginning to learn — far more disturbingly for the world-view which socialists shared with anti-socialists — that the natural sciences themselves are quite different in character and status from what the hubristic social scientists of the 18th and 19th centuries imagined them to be. An obvious implication is that civil society cannot be remade to fit a grand design — not just because it is apt to resist, but because the very notion of a grand design is a dangerous absurdity.

To the extent that socialism is still the vehicle of the working class, that is now a handicap rather than an asset. The classical working class, the proletariat which Marx described and helped to form, has almost disappeared. Some of it — in most developed societies, the majority — has been absorbed, for all practical purposes, into the middle class. The rest — the unskilled, the handicapped, the victims of racial prejudice — have become an alienated under-class, effectively excluded from full citizenship. But this under-class has little in common with the disciplined class warriors who were supposed to carry the future in their knapsacks. If anything, it is more reminiscent of the lumpen-proletariat which the early socialists saw as recruiting material for the military and strike breaking.

Partly because of this, the secular religion has lost its power as well. Socialism has zealous bureaucrats, faithful supporters, even loyal voters. What it does not have are believers. The most successful socialist politicians of our day — Mitterrand, Gonzalez, Craxi — have about the same relationship with the socialism of the pioneers as Renaissance popes with the Christianity of the apostles. The socialist parties of western Europe are still the continent's largest reservoir of decency and hope, but they no longer promise salvation to the elect or damnation to the unregenerate. They stand for reform, progress, amelioration, not for transformation. As for the socialist parties of the east, all that remains is a collection of empty husks.

Yet in this catalogue of decay, one item is conspicuous by its absence. Nothing has happened

to invalidate the socialist ethic. The values of community and fellowship speak as loudly to the late 20th century as to earlier periods. Indeed, in some respects they speak more loudly. For with the ethic went an insight — the insight that all societies, even capitalist ones, depend on community ties; and that community ties are public goods, which the competitive free market cannot supply but can destroy.

Different socialists expressed that insight in different ways but almost all of them felt its force. They knew in their bones that a society based on the acquisitive individualism of market economics would be a contradiction in terms. They also knew that, in seeking to base society on acquisitive individualism, the apologists of the free market risked breaking the mainspring of mutual trust on which all societies depend.

A hundred years ago, when the socialist critique of capitalism first developed political momentum, that danger was remote. Marx, Morris and even the young Tawney lived in societies saturated with the communal ethic of pre-industrial past and shot through with institutions that embodied it. Churches, universities, municipalities, crafts, professions, armies all, in different ways to differing degrees, expressed a collective morality of some kind. Indeed, the capitalist free market drew on the legacy of the old ethic, even while depleting it. Now the danger has come close, above all, perhaps, in the casino capitalism of Britain and the U.S. The relentless tide of market individualism is steadily eroding what remains of the old communalism, like a high sea scooping out the foundations of a cliff; and despite worried gropings by figures as disparate as Douglas Hurd, Vaclav Havel and the Pope, no one has yet found a new communalism to replace it. The socialist insight is increasingly borne out. The socialist ethic has ceased to be a nebulous piety and become a necessity.

The central question for the post-socialist era is whether insight and ethic can be brought together in a new project with some purchase on social reality. The only honest answer is that there is, as yet, no way of telling. There are some growth points — the citizenship debate which now engages virtually the whole political spectrum; the communitarian critique of liberalism which has become a major theme of moral and political philosophy; the feminist critique of traditional conceptions of politics and the public sphere; the green emphasis on sustainability and stewardship; the growing realisation that human capital and economic cooperation hold the key to high quality production; even the emergence, in some companies, of a more decentralised and participatory style of management. But although a new paradigm, which cannot be encapsulated in the familiar language of right and left, is slowly beginning to emerge, the deadly old paradigms of top-down collectivism and atomistic individualism are taking an unconscionable time to leave the state. And time is getting short.

David Marquand is Professor of Politics at the University of Sheffield. The article is reprinted from The Guardian.

Discoverer revisits Petra

By Nur Sadi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "I spent 15 days in the desert between the Dead Sea and the Red Sea... halfway between these two seas are the ruins of an imposing city, probably Petra, situated in the Musa valley. Splendidly decorated funerary vaults, hewn out of the rock, the remains of temples, palaces, an amphitheatre, an aqueduct and other curiosities make these ruins one of the most interesting places I have yet seen."



Burckhardt in oriental dress

This was the impression of the Swiss-born traveller, Johann Ludwig Burckhardt (better known as John Lewis Burckhardt) when he saw Petra for the first time in 1812. Although it was difficult for Europeans to travel freely into the orient because they were suspected of being spies, Burckhardt was able to manoeuvre around the heavily guarded Wadi Musa under the pretext that he wanted to make a sacrifice at Aaron's tomb.

In fact, for the most part, Burckhardt posed as an Indian-Arab merchant and used caravans for protection whenever he could. Along the 10,000 kilometres he covered in six years, he was robbed several times and nearly arrested as a spy. But "his disguise as Sheikh Ibrahim evidently won him the confidence of the native population," wrote Werner A. Galsusser.

Burckhardt's travels took him to Syria, Egypt, Mecca and Medina. His commission, by the African Association for promoting the discovery of the interior parts of Africa in London, was to cross the continent from Cairo to Niger.

Burckhardt was born in Lausanne, Switzerland in 1784. He studied law, philosophy and history in Germany and then moved to London in 1806, where he joined the African Association. Apparently, Burckhardt's interest in the orient began when he learned Arabic through the association. He converted to Islam, dressed in oriental style and adopted the name Sheikh Ibrahim Ibn Abd Allah.

Burckhardt saw Petra by tricking the suspicious inhabitants, but he rediscovered Abu Simbel in Egypt through sheer luck. On his journey from the upper Nile Valley to Aswan and as he was climbing up a sandy slope, he stumbled on something. "When having luckily turned more southward, I fell in with what is yet visible of four immense colossal statues cut out of the rock, at a distance of about 200 yards from the temple. They were almost entirely buried, but the head, which is above the surface, has a most expressive, youthful countenance," Burckhardt wrote.

Not only a traveller but a writer as well, Burckhardt highlighted the significance of Mecca and Medina in 1814 to 1815. He sent detailed reports to London about the religious (Hajj) ceremonies. Scholars contend that Burckhardt was successful in making Islam better understood by the Europeans who until then did not appreciate the significance of the holy places.

Using his intimate know-

ledge of the Arabic language, Burckhardt wrote a book which had an immediate impact on Europe. A book on 999 Arabic proverbs, edited by William Ouseley in London, in 1830. The proverbs compiled offered a genuine taste of the language spoken in Egypt, especially Cairo and the towns of the delta. "These sayings are useful as they serve to show us how the Arabs judge men and things, and in this respect it must be acknowledged that many are dictated by wisdom and sagacity," the editor of the proverbs concluded in his introduction.

Among his other achievements throughout the region, Burckhardt made major archaeological discoveries. Mr. Galsusser writes: "His travel diaries contain a great many carefully executed copies of inscriptions from the temples and ruined cities which he visited. This documentary record was made under difficult circumstances, since such copies had to be written while travelling as little attention as possible. This in itself is a considerable achievement."

But, Burckhardt never succeeded in crossing the desert to Niger. Apparently just before his trip, he became a victim of fish poisoning which led to a severe attack of dysentery. Burckhardt died in Cairo in 1817.

Before his death, however, Burckhardt was able to compile all his notes into a series of collections which are now found at Cambridge University, England. They include: "Travels in Nubia (1819)", "Travels in Syria and the Holy Land" (1822) and "Travels in Arabia" (1829). His works were translated into German, French, Italian and Spanish and all met with great success because of the "enthusiasm for things oriental that was sweeping Europe at that time."

According to the Swiss ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Bernardino Scioli, the Burckhardt name is very important in the history and literary world. This year commemorates seven centuries of the foundation of the Swiss Confederation and in celebration "we will open an exhibition on Burckhardt as a gift for Jordan," Mr. Scioli said. He explained the exhibition world open in Amman, move to Irbid's Yarmouk University and end in Petra. A Swiss delegation is expected to arrive in August to conduct research on Petra. "We are hoping to bring one of the members of the Burckhardt family to be present during the opening of the exhibition," the ambassador added.

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Senna escapes unhurt after overturning car

MEXICO CITY (R) — World champion Ayrton Senna escaped unhurt Friday after overturning his McLaren in a high-speed accident during the final minutes of qualifying for Sunday's Mexican Grand Prix.

The 31-year-old Brazilian was attempting to exit the infamous 180-degree Peralta curve, which leads to the start-finish straight at about 250 kph when he lost control of his car and it slid across the track.

The car spun off into the tyre barriers and then turned upside down in a cloud of dust and debris before Senna eventually crawled out of the wreckage and walked away to safety.

Looking extraordinarily unfazed after what was the biggest accident of his Formula One career, Senna said: "It was a big shunt. Once the car hit the tyre barrier backwards, it got flipped upside down and ended up in the sand."

"Up to that point, the car was going quite well. We just have to do some fine-tuning in preparation for tomorrow."

Remarkably, Senna appeared to suffer no new injuries to add to the estimated 20 stitches he

needed to close a head wound suffered in a jet ski accident at his Sao Paulo beach home last Sunday.

His car, however, is likely to require extensive repairs. One front wheel was torn off and there was severe damage to both the front and rear wheels and much of the chassis.

Senna had been attempting to make a typical last-ditch effort to recover provisional pole position when he crashed at the same point where Belgian Bertrand Gachot had gone off in his Jordan only 20 minutes earlier.

Gachot had crashed heavily, spinning backwards into the barrier, but like Senna, escaped unhurt. The accident caused the session to be red flagged and stopped for 18 minutes before it resumed and Senna crashed.

At the end of the day, Senna had to be satisfied with only the third-quickest time, as Italian Riccardo Patrese, continuing where he left off in Montreal two weeks ago, took the overnight pole with an outright lap record of one minute 16.69 seconds.

He was less than three tenths of a second quicker than his Williams team mate, Briton Nigel



Ayrton Senna

Mansell, who clocked 1:16.978 to join Patrese on the provisional front row.

Senna's quickest time of 1:17.264 set midway through the session was good enough for him to secure third position, ahead of Frenchman Jean Alesi in a Ferrari.

Austrian Gerhard Berger was fifth fastest in the second McLaren and Brazilian Nelson Piquet was sixth quickest in a

Benetton.

Frenchman Alan Prost, in the second Ferrari, had to settle for the seventh best time after a day undermined by engine and gearbox problems.

Patrese, who had to ignore the effects of a nasty bout of stomach cramps and sickness, said he felt doubtful about his fitness for the race despite being delighted with his qualifying form.

He said: "It is the same as Montreal. I can do a lap, but at the moment I don't know about the race."

"I was feeling fine when I left the hotel, but then in practice, everything turned into a nightmare... I shall have to wait and see how I feel tomorrow."

Mansell, who was also feeling unwell, said: "It was a repeat of Montreal for me too with my race car breaking down in the pits, so I had to take the spare. I am pleased I have managed to be second and quite happy with that."

Several drivers complained about the bumpy and slippery surface of the track, which has always been considered dangerous, particularly at Peralta where Senna went off.



Martina Navratilova

Navratilova lawsuit will not interfere with Wimbledon

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Martina Navratilova won't have to appear in Fort Worth for a deposition during Wimbledon, after all.

On Friday, attorneys for Navratilova were granted a continuance for a deposition requested by the tennis star's former companion.

Judy Nelson contends in a lawsuit against Navratilova that the tennis player has not lived up to terms of a 1986 agreement providing that if they split up, they would divide assets accrued since they began living together in July 1984.

Navratilova sent Nelson a letter in April dissolving their relationship.

Nelson's attorneys had asked that Navratilova appear in Fort Worth July 2 for the deposition. Navratilova, however, will be competing June 24-July 7 at Wimbledon and wanted the hearing delayed until after the tournament.

Navratilova's attorneys were ordered by senior visiting Judge Harry Hopkins to produce the deposition between July 16 and Aug. 2, said court coordinator Anita Hackett.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Navratilova hungry for the 10th Wimbledon singles title

BIRMINGHAM, England (R) — Martina Navratilova made it clear Wednesday that she is more determined than ever to capture her 10th singles title at Wimbledon starting later this month. "There are a couple of hungry players and I am one of them," said Navratilova after a 6-2 6-3 demolition of Indonesia's Yayuk Basuki at the dour classic grass court tournament. "There are a few of us who ought to win and I guess experience ought to count for something." "I am excited about still being in the hunt. Last year I didn't know if I could play because I had trouble with my knees but I had them fixed and I feel 10 years younger." But the 34-year-old American insisted she would not still be playing at 40.

Red Star's Binic gets six-month ban

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia (R) — Red Star Belgrade winger Dragisa Binic was suspended for six months Friday for punching the referee in a league match last week. Binic, one of the penalty scorers when Red Star beat Marseille in the European Cup Final May 29, was among several players involved in a dispute with the referee during a match against Hajduk Split. He floored the referee with a powerful uppercut and was later shown the red card. Binic had been tipped to continue his career abroad next season, but under Yugoslav rules a player cannot negotiate with a foreign club when under suspension. "Binic did a very serious thing and was lucky the suspension was not bigger," said Marko Rlesic, president of the Yugoslav soccer federation. "He has no right to appeal."

Edberg beats Cash to reach semifinals

LONDON (R) — World number one Stefan Edberg stopped Pat Cash's Wimbledon warm-up in its tracks when he beat the Australian in the quarterfinals of the Queen's Club Grass Court Tournament Friday. The clash of the present and past Wimbledon champions ended with a 6-3 6-4 victory for the Swede. The two men, who both have London homes, have been playing superbly on the familiar Queen's Club grass this week despite blustery conditions and frequent showers. But the 25-year-old Edberg, who begins the defence of his Wimbledon crown in 10 days' time, proved to have the stronger nerves. Edberg, who had beaten 1987 Wimbledon winner Cash twice already this year — in the Australian Open and indoor in Brussels — broke his opponent in the fifth and ninth games of the first set with some superb returns. In a separate development both Lendl and Sampras were beaten at Queen's yesterday.

Borg says he will be ready in a short time

HAMBURG (AP) — Five-time Wimbledon champion Bjorn Borg believes that his game will soon improve so much that he will be able to beat Boris Becker and other top tennis players, according to an interview published Friday. In an advance release of the interview to appear in next week's issue of the magazine Der Spiegel, Borg said he plans to play in 10-15 tournaments a year. Borg, 35, who is attempting a comeback after an eight-year retirement, said his game will soon become "as good as it was a decade ago, and then I could also beat Boris Becker." But, Borg said, his aim was "to play for myself and not for the rankings." Becker is the no. 2 in the world. Borg's comeback suffered a setback when he was beaten soundly in the first round of the Monte Carlo Open in April by unheralded Spaniard Jordi Arrese. Since then, he has been working with former Italian stars Adriano Panatta and Paolo Bertolucci. He has also dropped his outdated wooden racket in favour of a more conventional composite one.

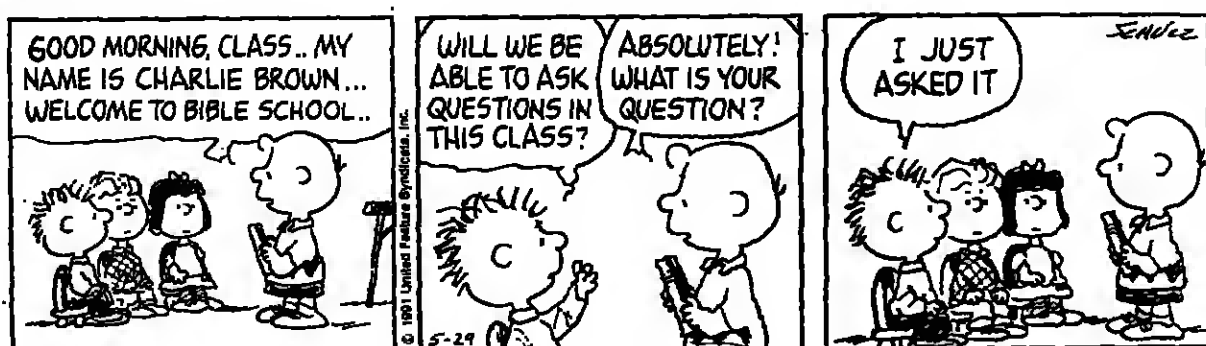
Zaragoza regains WBC super-bantamweight title

TOKYO (R) — Mexico's Daniel Zaragoza regained his World Boxing Council (WBC) super-bantamweight title at the age of 33 Friday with a split-decision victory over champion Kyoshi Hatanaka of Japan. The 12-round bout, in Hatanaka's hometown of Nagoya, started off well for the 24-year-old champion whose double-fisted blows kept Zaragoza on the ropes. But the Mexican, possessor of a useful right hook, opened up a cut above the champion's left eye in the fourth round when the two men began to trade punches on more equal terms. Zaragoza carried on the offensive over the next eight rounds, finally earning sufficient points for victory. There were no knockdowns. Zaragoza captured the vacant WBC super-bantamweight crown in February 1988 but lost it to American Paul Banke in April last year. His win Friday robbed Japan of its only world boxing title.

Rosario wins WBA junior welterweight title

SACRAMENTO, California (R) — Edwin Rosario of Puerto Rico won the World Boxing Association (WBA) junior welterweight title from defending champion Loreto Garza of the United States when the referee stopped the fight in the third round of their scheduled 12-round bout Friday night. Rosario, who previously held three different lightweight titles, improved his record to 37-4 with 32 knockouts. Garza, in his second title defence, dropped to 28-1-2.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



Burrell walks out of Carl Lewis' shadow

NEW YORK (AP) — Leroy Burrell walked off with a world record — and out of the shadow of Carl Lewis.

Not that Lewis was a flop Friday at the U.S. Track and Field Championships. While Burrell was bursting out of the blocks to a 9.90 time in the 100-metre dash, Lewis just missed catching his teammate and friend. It was Lewis' fastest time since the 1988 Olympics, when his 9.92 was declared victorious and the world record after Ben Johnson was disqualified for steroid use.

Burrell and Lewis. They might be linked together in headlines and record books for a long time.

"I couldn't have done it without the help of Carl and my teammates at the Santa Monica Track Club," Burrell said as he unzipped the tuxedo shirt of his fashionable warmup that caught the eyes of most spectators well before Burrell blazed to the world mark. "Everybody helps me and supports me and we lift each other up. We can't help but stand above the crowd."

Santa Monica had five of the eight 100 finalists.

Burrell was not surprised by his performance. He was a little stunned at how quickly he got it going, though.

"Everything went well from the start, obviously," said Burrell, 24. "I reacted to the gun very well, drove out of the blocks powerfully and accelerated unlike ever before."

Neither Burrell nor Lewis felt he was in top shape for this meet. That bodes well for the rest of the year.

"It's funny, I run fast in shape and out of shape," said Burrell, who later qualified for the 200 semifinals. "You never know and it just came together today. But I know there are areas I can im-

prove in and it's just a matter of putting it all on the track."

Adds Lewis, who will try to extend a 10-year, 64-meet winning streak in the long jump Saturday, "this is just the beginning of a great summer. I think all of us will be faster by August."

If Lewis had gotten a faster start, he might have lowered the world standard himself.

"I didn't run well out of the blocks, but the bottom line is when you get to the line at this kind of championships, the best men will do it. That was Leroy today."

Another "Olympic" champion named Lewis, Steve Lewis, pulled up when the hamstring right-ened in his left leg in a 400-metre heat.

Greg Foster, the two-time defending world champion, won the 110 hurdles. Jack Pierce, who got a flyer at the start, was second, followed by Renaldo Nehemiah, Foster's longtime rival and former world record holder.

Gail Devers-Roberts, who only two months ago began recovering from Graves disease, a potentially fatal thyroid condition, took the women's 100 hurdles. Devers-Roberts barely could think walk earlier this year after side effects from radiation treatments burned her feet.

"I've got a lot to be thankful for," she said. "If you think you've got it rough, believe in yourself and keep on keeping on and you will succeed."

Also succeeding in making the world team were Dawn Bowles and Armita Epps-Myricks.

The women's 100 was won by NCAA champ Carlette Guidry of Texas. Joining her in Tokyo will be Gwen Torrence and Evelyn Ashford, the three-time Olympic gold medalist.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNIA HIRSCH
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GOLDEN PLAY

Both vulnerable. East deals.
NORTH
♠ A 8 6
♥ A K J 3
♦ A J 8 4
♣ J 6
WEST
♠ K 7 4 2
♥ Q 10 9
♦ 7 5 2
♣ A 8 4
EAST
♠ Q 10 9 3
♥ 8 5 4
♦ K Q 10
♣ 10 5 3
SOUTH
♠ J 5
♥ 7 6 2
♦ 9 6 3
♣ K Q 9 7 2

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass Pass Pass 1 ♠
Pass 1 NT Pass 3 NT
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠

In a column a few days ago, we mentioned Adam Meredith as one of the great players of what was considered the Golden Age of bridge.

"Plum," as he was called by his friends, was known almost as much for his penchant of bidding three-card spade suits as for his ability to rescue impossible contracts. Here's an example from the 1955 Great Britain-USA world championship encounter, won by the former.

North's jump to three no trump was more than a little pushy, and looking at all the hands it appears

that the contract must fail—West need only hold up the ♠ 10 of clubs for one round. But what declarer creates a false picture of the closed hand.

East won the opening lead with the queen of spades and returned the three, covered by the jack and king and taken with the ace. With a moment's thought, Meredith led the jack of clubs from the table and put up his king!

West was faced with a crucial decision before he knew much about the hand, especially declarer's diamond holding. Apparently afraid that declarer was trying to steal the fulfilling trick, West took the ace of clubs. The defenders then collected two spade tricks, ending in the East hand, and East exited with the king of diamonds.

The beauty of declarer's play in clubs was about to bear fruit. Declarer won dummy's ace of diamonds, led a club end finessed the king! It was no more than fitting that the finesse should win and the clubs should divide evenly. When the heart queen proved to be favorably located as well, declarer was able to score four club tricks, three hearts and the aces of spades and diamonds to bring his total to nine.

Deceptive play of classic perfection.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY JUNE 16, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Richter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You find there are a number of delays or disappointments in the early part of the day that require a considerable amount of patience on your part. Show that you follow rules scrupulously.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You can have so many wonderful ideas now that you should wisely make notations of them so you will not lose the value they could bring you by forgetting them.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You can benefit greatly in the future by the ability today to see the ways and means by which you can add to your income and revenue you have.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You have every kind of chance now to gain whatever is of personal value to you and others willing to help you put in motion a desirable plan.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Whatever you have in mind that does mean investigating better ways to put your own cherished longings and secret desires in effect.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Take some time out to join good friends at whatever they like to do that also pleases you and find out how you can be of service to them later.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Your outside interests are of paramount importance now and can be enhanced by whatever

effort you place upon them this interesting day.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Whatever you have been doing that has become a drag can now be replaced by some interesting new condition that will please and bring you plenty.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) There are some pretty deep-seated intuitive perceptions now of yours that give you the answers for which you have been searching for some time.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You are able to discuss in very logical terms what ever points of tension exist between you and anyone else and this is your time to be cooperative.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Take some time out to really show what hangons are in work matters so those who you want to be associated with will decide now if they want your alliance.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) There are some pretty interesting pleasures now awaiting you so after assignments to what gives you a kick.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) If you have anything that is not working as you wish at home, make a point to sit down and discuss harmoniously with family members and solve intelligently.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I disguised the car to look like a turtle. So when I'm going fast the police will think I'm going slow!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PAPYL
LUBLY
DOLITS
NAMALY



IN THE RACE TO THE ALTAR SHE WAS ON THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: THE

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MERGE SANDY POPLAR ALPACA

Answer: That nutty crook brought a banana to the courtroom so that he could do this—

"AP-PEAL" HIS CASE

THE Daily Crossword by Bruce W. Thompson



- ACROSS
- 1 Oak
 - 5 Caustic in tone
 - 10 Seth's father
 - 14 Biblical twin
 - 15 Baller movement
 - 17 Pleasing
 - 17 Board game
 - 20 Understanding
 - 21 Tricked one
 - 22 Choir voices
 - 23 Milan moats
 - 24 Broadway musical
 - 26 Pampers
 - 28 Talking toy
 - 30 Drs.' org.
 - 33 Farm measure
 - 34 Uncanny
 - 38 Excavated
 - 39 Spectacular construction
 - 40 Relatives
 - 41 Holy roll
 - 42 Point strike
 - 43 Agent
 - 44 Deadwood's locale, abbr.
 - 45 Nimble
 - 47 Afr. settler
 - 48 Lactic e.g.
 - 49 Odelet
 - 52 Saltmarshes
 - 53 Occupation
 - 58 Transportation in an old song
 - 60 "Fanny" Hines
 - 61 A Doubtless
 - 62 Biblical brother
 - 63 Arab robes
 - 64 Dracids
 - 65 Secretary
 - DOWN
 - 1 Ship floor
 - 2 Naimen
 - 3 Paramount
 - 4 Paronomasia
 - 5 Reticulous
 - 6 Tint persica
 - 7 Cereal
 - 8 Somewhat suff.
 - 9 Sandra or
 - 10 Ruby
 - 10 Low joint
 - 11 Food regimen
 - 12 Before bat or photo
 - 13 Cluster
 - 16 Chantreuse
 - 18 Adams
 - 19 Rich Oriental cloth
 - 22 Legal holding
 - 23 Idle
 - 24 Mustroom
 - 25 Inter
 - 26 Supports
 - 27 Off the old block
 - 30 Fictional ball town
 - 31 Media beginning
 - 32 Last end
 - 34 Across
 - 36 Samantha
 - 37 Plays tennis
 - 48 Following
 - 49 Grading
 - 50 Tell all
 - 51 Native dance
 - 52 Sicilian volcano
 - 53 Be in accord
 - 54 Sings
 - 55 Pitching boo-boo
 - 57 Cio
 - 58 Vigna of TV
 - 59 Outwitted

Financial Markets

Jordan Times
In co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	Unit	Rate
Sterling Pound	100	1.6425
Deutsche Mark	100	1.7900
Swiss Franc	100	1.7100
French Franc	100	1.6900
Japanese Yen	100	1.6100
European Currency Unit	100	1.6100

Eurocurrency Interest Rates

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTH	6 MTH	12 MTH
U.S. Dollar	1.87	2.04	2.11	2.18
Sterling Pound	1.11	1.12	1.13	1.14
Deutsche Mark	1.11	1.12	1.13	1.14
Swiss Franc	1.11	1.12	1.13	1.14
French Franc	1.11	1.12	1.13	1.14
Japanese Yen	1.11	1.12	1.13	1.14
European Currency Unit	1.11	1.12	1.13	1.14

Precious Metals

Metal	USD-Oz	JD-Lm
Gold	100.94	7.00
Silver	10.00	1.10

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.686	0.688
Sterling Pound	1.1187	1.1243
Deutsche Mark	0.3817	0.3876
Swiss Franc	0.3849	0.4471
French Franc	0.1123	0.1129
Japanese Yen	0.4870	0.4894
Dutch Guilder	0.3387	0.3404
Swedish Krona	0.1060	0.1065
Italian Lira	0.0512	0.0515
Belgian Franc	0.01856	0.01865

Other Currencies

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7900	1.8200
Lebanese Lira	0.0745	0.0765
Saudi Riyal	0.1820	0.1830
Kuwaiti Dinar	0.1850	0.1860
Omani Riyal	1.7500	1.7700
UAE Dirham	0.1850	0.1860
Greek Drachma	0.3410	0.3600
Cypriot Pound	1.3870	1.4160

CAS Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	5/6/1991	12/6/1991
All-Share	112.16	111.64
Banking Sector	108.95	107.34
Insurance Sector	112.92	114.25
Industry Sector	114.91	115.52
Services Sector	128.24	130.73

Poehl sees brighter world economic outlook

OSLO (R) — Outgoing German central bank (Bundesbank) President Karl Otto Poehl said Friday the outlook for the world economy was brightening.

"On the global economic situation, we have all reason to be a little more optimistic than we had reason to be, let's say a year ago," he told a seminar in Oslo marking the 175th anniversary of the Norwegian central bank.

"Recessionary tendencies are still existing in some countries but it seems that the outlook for the U.S. in particular has brightened in the recent past, at least this is the conviction in the exchange markets," he said.

The dollar has climbed against most currencies in recent months due to a belief that the U.S. recession has bottomed out.

"Some countries are still in a rather sluggish economic situation, others are expanding — Japan and in particular Germany," said Mr. Poehl, who is due to leave the Bundesbank in July after 11 years as its president.

"Germany has acted as a kind



Karl Otto Poehl

of locomotive for the world economy and particularly for the European economy since unification," he added.

Despite the huge political problems of unifying former West Germany with the formerly communist east, the western German economy was now expanding at an annual rate of around four or five per cent.

This meant big benefits to neighbouring nations — German imports from other European Community countries had jumped about 20 per cent in the past year, he added.

But he said German interest rates would have to stay high.

"Real interest rates in Germany are still very high and have to remain pretty high in the future," he said. "So there is no room for easing of monetary policy in Germany as some expected us to do."

U.S. production gains, inflation looks under rein

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. retail prices rose a slight 0.8 per cent in May, the government said Friday in a report economists said showed inflation is under control and poses no threat to a recovery from the 11-month-old recession.

The U.S. government also issued additional reports that indicated the economy may be approaching the start of a rebound.

The Federal Reserve Board, which oversees the U.S. central banks, said output at the nation's mines, utilities and factories rose 0.5 per cent last month, with factories operating at a slightly higher percentage of capacity.

In a separate report, the Commerce Department said business inventories fell in April while business sales gained — signs that individuals and businesses started to spend and that factories will have to boost production quickly to refill stocks.

It said inventories fell 0.5 per cent in April after a revised 1.0 per cent drop in March, while business sales gained 1.2 per cent in April after falling a revised 0.9 per cent in March.

In the consumer price index (CPI) report, the Labour Department said a jump in the cost of petrol helped push retail prices up 0.3 per cent in May after a 0.2

Egypt lobbies World Bank donors for further funds

LONDON (R) — Egypt presented details of its economic reform in London Friday to Arab development funds and Gulf states' representatives, in the hope of influencing a World Bank consultative group before a key donors' meeting next month.

"What we tried to tell them were the main elements of the economic reform, how we have already started and how we are committed to this reform and to discuss the financial needs in implementing this programme," Deputy Prime Minister Kamel Ganzouri said in an interview.

He declined to say how much Egypt was seeking in assistance and did not cite specific figures at the Friday meeting, which followed presentations in other European capitals and Tokyo.

The delegation was due to go on to Ottawa and Washington.

Mr. Ganzouri also declined to say how much Egypt would ask from the World Bank and said figures would be discussed at a meeting of the consultative group

in Paris on July 6.

The group comprises leading industrial nations, rich Gulf states and Arab development organisations.

"Any economic reform needs financing internally and externally and this is what we are trying to discuss," he added.

Egypt has reached agreement in principle on a standby facility from the International Monetary Fund of around \$270 million to \$300 million and on a \$300 million structural adjustment loan from the World Bank, said Mr. Morris Makramallah, minister for international cooperation.

The delegation signed Thursday three loan agreements with the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.

There was also a 100,000 Kuwaiti dinar (\$47 million) grant to update a study on sewerage systems.

Of the loans, about 14.4 million Kuwaiti dinars (\$47 million) went to Egypt's social fund, which would be used to ease



Morris Makramallah

unemployment in the public sector and help resettle 600,000 Egyptians returning from the Gulf region, Mr. Makramallah said.

Some 36.2 million dinars (\$118 million) will go towards an electricity distribution project, and the balance went to an industrial project to make rubber products.

Organisations attending the meeting at a London hotel included development funds from Kuwait and Abu Dhabi, the Islamic Development Bank, as well as representatives from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Egypt also planned talks with the European Community and the African Development Bank, Mr. Makramallah said.

Economists unveil scheme to reform Kremlin system

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts (R) — Soviet and U.S. economists Friday unveiled the outlines of a plan to transform seven decades of centralised Kremlin control into a free-market democracy in seven years.

The plan, months in the making, envisages a Soviet Union which by 1997 would have firmly in place the fundamentals of the sort of Western democracy Moscow has battled against for more than 70 years, largely financed by Western aid.

The step-by-step proposal, of which only the most broad strokes were revealed, calls for the groundwork to be laid immediately in 1991. It then proposes price and trade liberalisation, strict fiscal discipline and small-scale privatisation of the communist system next year.

Large-scale privatisation, the development of a financial market infrastructure, democratisation and massive conversion from a defence-laden economy would occur in 1998, according to the

figure for how much Western aid would be needed to finance the radical conversion.

Mr. Allison has said such aid could rival the Marshall plan which rebuilt Europe after World War II perhaps \$15 billion to \$20 billion a year.

And neither disputed the suggestion of another member of the working group, Harvard economist Jeffrey Sachs, who has said as much as \$35 billion a year would be needed.

"This is not a bailout of the communist system, nor is it a bribe or charity," Mr. Allison said. "Whatever Western assistance is provided would be an investment in improving the odds of transformation."

The number-crunching would be left to the next phase of the project, largely generated by the Western democracies and the international monetary institutions they control should the plan prove acceptable, they said.

"Our solution was, at the end of the story, only the international financial organisations and the G-7 can decide what money is needed," Mr. Yavlinsky said. "Maybe that is their main task."

Mr. Yavlinsky said he expected to work with the Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrialised nations on the degree of Western aid required but stressed that the Soviet Union was obliged to use its considerable resources in the effort.

Lebanon orders \$7 million rebuilding study

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon ordered a \$6.9 million study Friday on how to rebuild and revive Beirut's city centre, wrecked by 16 years as a civil war battleground.

Mr. Al Fadel Shalqa, head of Lebanon's Council for Development and Reconstruction, ordered the plan from the U.S. Bechtel Corporation and Lebanon's Dar Al Handasa (house of engineering).

Mr. Shalqa told Reuters the study would consist of a four-month phase for infrastructure planning, an eight-month phase for reconstruction planning and finally a 10-year economic plan.

An official from the American embassy in Beirut also signed the agreement. A copy would be sent to the United States for endorsement by Bechtel, based in San Francisco, officials said.

Asked whether the study reflected government optimism that the relative peace which Lebanon has enjoyed since last December would continue, Mr. Shalqa said: "Of course. We are not planning."

Prime Minister Omar Karami said at the signing rebuilding Lebanon should only be undertaken after careful planning.

Lebanon's cabinet decided last month that joint Lebanese and foreign companies could be set up for rebuilding in the city centre, where buildings were either flattened or are shell-holed hulks.

The Lebanese government estimates damage from the civil war at between \$15 and \$25 billion. It wants up to \$2 billion in long-term loans as a start to pay for reconstruction.

Lebanese-born Saudi billionaire Rafiq Hariri, who sponsored an abortive attempt to rebuild the heart of Beirut, in 1983, gave some \$5 million to finance the project, Mr. Shalqa said.

The city centre gave Lebanon its pre-war reputation as the "Switzerland of the Middle East" with banks and offices busy during the day while nightclubs, restaurants and bars took over at night.

World tin stocks slide, prices seen rising

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — World tin stocks have dipped 13 per cent in the last six months and could fall further, raising prospects of a rebound in prices, the Association of Tin Producing Countries (ATPC) said Friday.

ATPC officials said stocks may fall to 36,700 tonnes, equivalent to about two months of world consumption, at the end of this year from 42,500 currently and 49,000 at end-1990.

"Based on the current depletion rate, we are optimistic that the stocks could be drawn down by more than 12,500 tonnes for the whole 1991," ATPC Executive Secretary Redwan Sumari said at the end of the group's executive committee meeting in Kuala Lumpur.

The seven-member ATPC has been curbing exports to bring stocks to normal levels of 20,000 tonnes.

Prices of the metal are gradually recovering after hitting a four-year low recently, forcing closures in some producing countries.

"The price level of between 16 and 17 ringgit (\$5.75 and \$6.11) a kilogramme is achievable," Redwan said. "The market will probably look at that kind of prices in two or three months' time."

The current price is 15.55 ringgit (\$5.59).

The ATPC, which groups Australia, Bolivia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand and Zaire, accounts for 60 per cent of world tin production.

Brazil, the world's top producer, and China have declined to join the ATPC but agreed to cooperate in curbing exports.

ATPC members have recently accused Brazil of flooding the market through exports from illegal mines. Mr. Redwan said tin smuggling by Brazil was now being considerably reduced.

Canadian jobless rate rises to 10.3 per cent

OTTAWA (R) — Canada's unemployment rate rose to 10.3 per cent in May from 10.2 per cent in April, the government has said.

The number of jobless Canadians increased by 15,000 to 1.41 million last month, Statistics Canada, the government reporting agency, said.

The number of people with jobs also rose as the workforce grew. Employment rose for a second consecutive month by 34,000 to 12.36 million.

"We are striking a wait-and-see attitude, but the recession seems to have bottomed out," said Mr. Doug Drew, an analyst with Statistics Canada.

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The Arab Potash Company Limited (A.P.C.) of Amman, Jordan plans to expand production capacity by 400,000 tonnes per year. The facilities will be located on a site adjoining the existing refinery near Sali, on the southern end of the Dead Sea, about 200km north of the port of Aqaba.

A.P.C. has applied for financing to the World Bank. The proceeds of the loan will be applied to payments for the supply of the required equipment in accordance with the guidelines of the World Bank.

Purchases will be made from the member countries of the World Bank and Switzerland.

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Tender documents will be available to suppliers on and from June 16th, 1991. The closing date for submitting the tenders will be 12:00 noon July 15th, 1991.

A.Y. Ensour, Managing Director, The Arab Potash Co., Ltd.

Philippine volcano bombards U.S. bases, buries villages

ANGELES, Philippines (R) — An erupting volcano in the Philippines bombarded two U.S. military bases and nearby towns with a deadly hail of rock and ash Saturday, triggering a series of earthquakes and burying villages in mud.

"It's like doomsday," said Richard Dizon who owns a hotel in Angeles, a few kilometres from the exploding Mount Pinatubo. At least 10 people have been killed and scores injured since the volcano started erupting last Sunday, ending six centuries of inactivity, officials said.

The eruption sent huge pillars of ash towering into the sky, blotting out the sun as far away as the capital Manila, 80 kilometres to the south.

Scientists warned that the volcano, spewing red hot lava and noxious gas in a succession of increasingly powerful eruptions, could explode in a devastating blast and urged residents of three major towns and surrounding areas to flee.

"We are now looking into the possibility of a bigger eruption... we are now thinking of a worst-case scenario," said Ronaldo Arboleda, a geologist for the Philippine Volcanology and Seismological Institute.

He said in a radio interview the institute had now expanded the danger zone from 30 to 40 kilometres, which would include

the major towns of Angeles, next to Mount Pinatubo, San Fernando and Olongapo, close to the U.S. Subic Bay naval base.

"The situation is really very dangerous," Arboleda declared. Most of the victims died in the last 24 hours in huge mudflows triggered by heavy rains, which snapped bridges and buried villages in their homes.

Four earthquakes jolted the northern Philippines around the area of the volcano, the institute said. Buildings in Manila were rocked by what seemed to be the strongest of the four quakes.

"I think these earthquakes are connected to the eruption," said chief volcanologist Reynaldo Punongbayan.

There were no immediate reports of deaths directly related to the quakes, but two people were killed when the roofs of bus terminals in Angeles and Olongapo, weighed down by falling ash, collapsed onto scores of passengers trying to flee.

Stones, some the size of tennis balls, rained down on evacuation centres across three northern provinces where tens of thousands of refugees muddled under flimsy tents and in makeshift camps.

The United States withdrew all of nearly 1,000 troops guarding Clark Air Base, near Pinatubo, Saturday but said weapon systems stored in underground

bunkers would be safe.

"After the major eruption this afternoon, they (the soldiers) were all taken out," said U.S. embassy spokesman Stanley Schragger in Manila.

Fifteen thousand less essential U.S. personnel and their families were evacuated from Clark earlier this week.

A constant hail of pebbles clattered into the streets of Angeles, with a population of 200,000, and pelted Clark and Subic, the two largest American military bases in Asia.

"We just braved a heavy down-pour of sand and stones. We thought burning rocks would fall on us," said 60-year-old Erlinda David who left her home near Clark.

"We were scared to be buried under boulders, so we left the house," one said.

A thick layer of sand and ash lay on roads between Angeles and Subic to the west and constant rains from a tropical storm sweeping the northern Philippines caused floods and landslides.

"People are fleeing in panic, some on foot, some jamming into packed buses, holding umbrellas and towels over their heads to protect them from falling debris," said a local journalist.

"It looks like the beach, where there used to be potholes, the

road has been filled in by debris and sand," said Elpidio Acebal, another evacuee.

At least 30 people were reported injured in Olongapo, many of them hit by falling stones or trees which snapped under the weight of volcanic ash.

Subic was dimming with evacuees from Clark, but there were no immediate reports of U.S. casualties.

The United States was due to start flying home the families of Clark based servicemen Sunday. Officials said Subic, built around the naval dockyard, was not suitable for a long stay.

Pinatubo has unleashed a series of almost non-stop eruptions since Friday afternoon, triggering the earth tremors.

"It was really frightening as it became bigger and bigger," said Don Sotto, working in a hotel 25 kilometres from the volcano.

"It looks like many explosions from different parts of the volcano happened at the same time," he said.

Teresita Mallari, a high school student who watched the eruption from Angeles, said: "I saw huge flashes of light glowing like lightning. I've never seen anything like it."

There was flooding in parts of Manila and around Angeles, where rivers were contaminated with ash and a major bridge collapsed.

2 more arrested in Gandhi case Uncertainty looms as Indian polls conclude

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Indian voters, driven to apathy by interminable political crises, heat and monsoon rain, turned out in relatively small numbers on Saturday to end an election marathon.

Little fresh violence was reported to top the country's bloodiest campaign, dimmed by the assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on May 21.

The killing, still unsolved, caused postponement of 60 per cent of the voting.

If political analysts and opinion polls are correct, none of the three major contenders on the left, right and centre could expect a majority after the polls closed on Saturday evening.

The mood of the Indian electorate of 514 million turned cynical after 18 months of caste and religious violence which caused the collapse of three governments. The current campaign began in the middle of the country's worst economic crisis.

The first phase of voting for just over 200 seats was held the day before Mr. Gandhi was killed by a woman suicide bomber in the southern state of Tamil Nadu.

Just over 50 per cent of eligible voters turned out that first day and the turnout was no higher last Wednesday, the delayed second day, dashing the hopes of Mr. Gandhi's Congress Party for a surge of sympathy voting.

That trend appeared to have continued on Saturday, the third day.

Reports from around the country spoke of low to moderate early turnouts in the polling, staggered to allow security forces to be moved around to forestall violence stemming from rigging and voter intimidation.

Troops and police were cut in large numbers in the 186 constituencies at stake on Saturday for the 545-seat parliament.

Voting in one constituency in the southern state of Andhra

Pradesh was cancelled after an independent candidate was murdered, and a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) worker died in a clash in western Gujarat.

Vote counting is scheduled to start early on Sunday (0230 GMT), with a firm trend expected by some time on Monday.

The only sure thing was the emergency of the right-wing, Hindu chauvinist BJP as a major force in parliament, likely to become the second biggest party after Congress, which opinion polls predicted would win about 200 seats.

The polls suggested the BJP would get around 160. It scored with an emotive campaign for turning secular India into an officially Hindu nation.

Arrests in Gandhi case

Investigators probing the assassination of Mr. Gandhi have arrested two key more suspects United News of India reported.

The suspects, known only as Nalini and Murugan, were apprehended near the city of Madras, the capital of Tamil Nadu, the news agency said.

Both were arrested from a bus by sleuths who trailed them in a number of vehicles, the news agency said.

They were brought to Madras under heavy police guard.

Mr. Gandhi was killed by a suicide bomber in the town of Sriperumbudur, 40 kilometres southwest of Madras.

The arrests followed those of two other suspected conspirators Wednesday — a mother and son duo who allegedly gave shelter to Mr. Gandhi's assassin in their home in Madras.

Both S. Bhagyanathan and his 49-year-old mother, Padma, a nurse in a Madras hospital, were produced in court Wednesday and are currently in police custody for questioning.

The assassin has been identified by her nickname, Thanni. She, and several other suspected

accomplices, were photographed at Mr. Gandhi's election meeting in Sriperumbudur, minutes before she detonated plastic explosives strapped to her waist killing Mr. Gandhi, herself and 16 others.

Other than her name, investigators have given no other details of Thanni.

Nalini, Bhagyanathan's sister, was photographed at Mr. Gandhi's meeting in the company of another alleged conspirator. Police released a snap of the two Wednesday.

Both are believed to be part of a backup squad meant to carry out the assassination in case Thanni failed to get close to Mr. Gandhi or lost her nerve.

Another suspected accomplice is a one-eyed man — also among the photographs taken on Mr. Gandhi's rally — who was posing as a journalist.

The photographs were taken by an amateur photographer, Hari Babu, who died in the explosion but the roll of film in his camera remained intact. So far, those photographs have provided all or most of the leads in the investigation.

Inquiries have continued to centre around the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the most powerful and sophisticated Tamil group fighting for independence in Sri Lanka.

A possible motive for the Tigers' involvement in the assassination is Mr. Gandhi's role as a mediator in the Sri Lankan civil war when he was prime minister in 1987.

Mr. Gandhi ordered Indian troops to enforce a ceasefire between the Sri Lankan army and the Tigers under any Indian-brokered accord.

But the troops ended up with a 2½-year war with the Tigers when the Tigers reneged the peace plan and resumed fighting.

The troops were recalled in March 1990 by the government of V.P. Singh, who replaced Mr. Gandhi as prime minister.

Thousands in ANC protests for 'jobs, peace, freedom'

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Thousands of African National Congress (ANC) supporters took to the streets in protests throughout the country Saturday, calling for "jobs, peace and freedom."

The marches organised jointly by the ANC, the South African Communist Party (SACP) and the Congress of South African Trade Unions were held to protest the government's failure to meet ANC demands, an official said.

The demonstrations took place one day after the 15th anniversary of the Soweto massacre, in which hundreds of protesting blacks were killed by police. ANC deputy president is to address a mass commemoration rally Sunday in Soweto.

In Cape Town 1,000 people marched to parliament, in Durban 2,000 marched to the regional offices of the department of manpower and in Johannesburg, about 5,000 marched to police headquarters, John Vorster Square.

A letter of demand addressed to President F.W. de Klerk was handed over at each march.

Singing protesters in central Johannesburg marched along main streets, blocking traffic. Police kept watch but there were no apparent incidents.

At John Vorster Square the protesters cheered and waved when they spotted a lone hand waving an ANC flag from a police cell window.

ANC General Secretary Nzo, ANC internal leader Walter Sisulu and SACP leader, Joe Slovo, led the demonstration.

Addressing the cheering crowd, Slovo said: "There can be no peace without freedom, there can be no freedom without peace."

Referring to the mass protests, he said: "We will continue voting with our feet until we can vote with our hands."

Nzo read out the letter before handing it to Johannesburg deputy police commissioner Col. Piet Fourie.

Despite political reforms: "The majority of South Africans remain voteless and under a constitution they were never part of drawing up," Nzo said.

Demands included an end to political violence, the election of

a constituent assembly to draw up a new constitution and an interim government. De Klerk has rejected both demands for an interim government and a constituent assembly.

Thousands of blacks have been killed in violence the last year. The ANC has repeatedly claimed that de Klerk has not done enough to end the violence mainly between supporters of the ANC and the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party.

"As long as the violence continues, there can be no progress towards a non-racial, democratic country," Nzo said.

He called for a binding code of conduct for police and all political organisations.

The letter also called for an end to the retrenchment of workers and massive job creation. Nzo said about 200,000 blacks could lose their jobs this year and that there were already about seven million unemployed.

"The current deadlock cannot be broken unless all political prisoners are freed, there is a general amnesty for exiles and effective steps are taken to end state and vigilante violence," he said.

Tremor Strikes Georgia

MOSCOW (R) — An earthquake struck the southern Soviet Republic of Georgia early Saturday, killing at least seven people and destroying several villages.

Rescue helicopters were immediately sent to the quake zone, centred on the disputed region of South Ossetia, where about 150 people died in a tremor April 29.

A government spokesman said the earthquake, registering eight on the Soviet 12 point scale, killed four children in the mountain farming village of Tsatskheneti. A fifth child died in a nearby settlement.

A journalist for the Georgian News Agency Iberia said six people had been killed in the area, where the quake destroyed eight villages.

"We talked to the mayor of the affected region and he said eight villages had been wiped out," he said.

A local journalist said one other child had died in the central city of Gori when a house collapsed. The independent Interfax News Agency said 50 people had been injured, some seriously.

"The situation is still not clear. Communications are cut. We are still getting confused reports," said a spokesman for a disaster commission set up after the tremor.

The official TASS News Agency said the tremor struck the mountainous region around south Ossetia about dawn.

The Iberia journalist said the earthquake had triggered a landslide which hit the village of Khietli. A similar landslide buried one village in the April quake, killing 46 people.

An earthquake measuring eight on the Soviet scale can cause considerable damage in a populated area. A December 1988 earthquake which killed about 25,000 people in Armenia further south registered up to 10 at its epicentre.

Storms kill 270 in China

BEIJING (AP) — More than 270 people have been killed and millions of hectares of farmland damaged by violent rainstorms that have hit wide areas of China in the past month, an official report said Saturday.

The ministry of civil affairs has reported 4,700 people injured and 34.3 million people affected by storms that have hit eight provinces along the Yangtze and Huaihe rivers in central China since mid-May, the China daily reported.

The Communist Party newspaper, the People's daily, ran a front-page report and photograph of premier Li Peng visiting

affected areas in coastal Anhui province.

Nearly 4.2 million hectares of summer crops have been damaged or destroyed, and grain output in those areas could be reduced by as much as one-third, the ministry said.

The storms caused 127,000 buildings to collapse, damaged 860,000 others and wiped out communication, transportation and water facilities in many areas.

Sichuan province, in southwest China, and central China's Hubei and Hunan provinces were hardest hit, the China daily said. Seventy counties, home to 9.6 million people, were declared disaster areas. In one county, flood waters were 1.5 metres deep, and 4,500 people were stranded for more than 10 hours.

Beijing also has been hit by torrential rains this week. Twenty-two people were reported killed, and 26,000 hectares of farmland flooded.

Each year, summer storms kill thousands of people and billions of dollars in damages.

Last year, 3,335 people were killed and 13 million hectares of farmland — one-seventh of China's total — flooded. Economic loss totalled nearly 24 billion yuan (\$4.5 billion), the paper said.

Poland's parliament passes election law

WARSAW (R) — Poland's parliament approved a new law Saturday to regulate the country's first free legislative elections since World War II, but refused to include a key element demanded by President Lech Walesa.

The Sejm (lower house) overwhelmingly approved the law for an October poll which was rushed through in just two days after Walesa vetoed an earlier draft.

Walesa's top aide, Jozef Kaczynski, told reporters the law was an improvement but would still not satisfy the president as parliament had refused to accept one of his main demands.

"The Sejm rejected a very important amendment concerning the method of voting, which was in fact one of the two most important conditions laid down by the president," he said.

Walesa threatened Friday to dissolve parliament if it refused to pass the electoral law he wanted and hold free elections within four months.

The row has triggered a crisis in relations between the democratically elected president and a parliament which is still packed with ex-Communists under a 1989 political deal with the solidarity movement.

It was unclear whether Walesa would sign into law the new bill, which has passed by 222 votes to 57 with 47 abstentions.

It was simplified in accordance with the demands of Walesa, who described the previous version as muddled and likely to create a fragmented parliament.

Massive public support for Yeltsin pushes Soviets on road to reform

By Ann Imse
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — The overwhelming victory of Boris N. Yeltsin in the Russian Republic's presidential election placed the Soviet Union irreversibly on the path of reform.

Any Communist Party or military hard-liners contemplating a coup now must reckon with 44 million citizens who voted for Yeltsin and might resent being overruled.

With 60 per cent of the vote, Yeltsin also got a ringing endorsement for his platform: Ending Communist Party domination, switching quickly from a planned to a market economy and allowing private ownership of factories and land.

As chairman of the republic's legislature for a year, Yeltsin pushed through more than 150 economic reform laws. He has

had trouble implementing them, however, because of opposition from the central Soviet government of President Mikhail S. Gorbachev.

Another possibility created by the lopsided win is a formidable alliance of Yeltsin and Eduard Shevardnadze, the former foreign minister, who won global respect through his pivotal role in ending the cold war.

Shevardnadze resigned in December, warning that a dictatorship might be near. His words seemed prophetic when Soviet troops attacked unarmed demonstrators in Lithuania three weeks later. Fourteen people were killed.

On Friday, with election results showing tremendous victories for radical reformers and humiliating defeats for communists, Shevardnadze was far more optimistic.

"We have gone through a very

important period," he told reporters in Vienna.

He said the danger of dictatorship had not disappeared completely, but the elections brought "a shift in power relations."

Aides to Yeltsin describe his victory as a mandate for radical reform. The numbers appear to explode Gorbachev's argument that most Soviets want to go slowly.

Yeltsin's closest rival, former Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov, got only 16 per cent of the vote. He advocated the slow change favoured by the Communist Party.

A Gorbachev aide, Vadim Bakatin, attracted 3 per cent of the vote, according to still preliminary figures, and Col. Gen. Albert Makashov, a hard-liner, got less than 4 per cent.

"Society is becoming more democratic," Yeltsin said. "I think there will be difficulties, but

it seems to me that communists and honest communists are starting to understand the system is beginning to collapse and there is no way to save it."

"The old system really is discredited," by the election results, a senior western diplomat said, on condition of anonymity. "The last six months have brought a turnaround."

"If Gorbachev moves in the direction of reform, he will see support out there, unlike last fall, when the reformers were not visible," he said.

Last autumn, Gorbachev agreed with Yeltsin on a 500-day plan for economic reform, then rejected it under pressure from hard-liners. He tried to reverse many of his reforms, most noticeably glasnost, or openness, in the state-owned media, and the military cracked down in the secessionist Baltic republics.

COLUMN

Woman wins \$1.3m on slot machine

LAS VEGAS (R) — A department store worker, on her first gambling fling in Las Vegas, won a slot machine jackpot of almost \$1.3 million Friday after spending three dollars. "I will use the money to buy a better house and I don't plan to stop working," said Carolyn Couch, 45, of Springfield, Massachusetts. Her jackpot was \$1,281,126. Her jackpot was the biggest ever paid on a 25-cent slot machine, according to International Game Technology, the company which runs the slot machine system. "I still don't believe it," said Couch, who is married and has three grown children. The machine, which she played at the Borgata Hotel and Casino, is linked to Quartermania, an electronic system which links 1,096 slot machines in 139 Nevada casinos. The machines can provide a single major jackpot.

Police arrest American orphanage director in Guatemala

GUATEMALA CITY (R) — Guatemalan police have arrested a U.S. citizen on fraud charges, causing a revolt among hundreds of children in the orphanage he directs, authorities said Friday. John Hugh Wetterer, known to the Guatemalan orphans in his care as "Tio (uncle) Juan," handed himself over to police late Thursday after he was informed of a U.S. extradition warrant against him, a national police spokesman said. When police turned up in the grounds of the elegant orphanage to make the arrest, "some 200 children, furious, tried to block our officers from doing their job," the spokesman said. Wetterer later gave himself up after Guatemalan Foreign Minister Alvaro Arzu intervened personally; the spokesman said U.S. Embassy sources in Guatemala City said Wetterer is wanted in the United States on fraud and other charges. The 43-year-old economist from New York, who set up the orphanage known as "mi casa (my house)" shortly after his arrival in Guatemala in 1977, was awaiting extradition in a Guatemalan jail cell, the police spokesman said.

Man barricades himself in building; demands jelly doughnuts

TALLAHASSEE, Florida (R) — A man broke into the Florida State Capitol building Friday, barricaded himself inside an office and demanded several hundred jelly doughnuts, alcohol and marijuana, police said. The man was identified as a former Florida State University student in his 20s but police did not release his name. A spokesman said the man had told authorities he had explosives, but they were unsure whether he had any weapons and did not believe he was holding any hostages. The 22-floor statehouse, where the State Legislature meets and Florida Governor Lawton Chiles has his office, was evacuated and surrounded by police marksmen. Authorities said they were trying to make contact with the man, who had access to a police radio. He broke in at about 4 a.m. and called police to say he had occupied the building. He left a rambling note outside the door where he broke in demanding several hundred jelly doughnuts, alcohol and marijuana.

Flier, woman navy officer naked on Gulf war frigate

LONDON (R) — A court martial Thursday fined and reprimanded a navy flier and a woman officer who were found naked together aboard a British frigate in the Gulf war zone. Each has fined £700 (\$1,230) in a case likely to fuel Royal Navy controversy about sending women to sea, especially to combat theatres. The court heard in its defence that sexual intercourse did not take place aboard the frigate Brilliant. The lieutenant, a helicopter observer, and the sub-lieutenant, a "wren" as women in the Royal Navy are called — decided before they were found kneeling naked on a bunk that their relationship risked "turning into something wrong." Both pleaded guilty to being naked together without reasonable excuse. The defence said close bonds were inevitably formed among crew members on warships under combat stress.